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国际象棋通报
بأخبار الشطرنج

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Following the sun



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The Inventors of the Chess Informant systems

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2	white stands slightly better
3	black stands slightly better
±	white has the upper hand
μ	black has the upper hand
+ −	white has a decisive advantage
− +	black has a decisive advantage
=	even
∞	unclear
©	with compensation for the material
‰	development advantage
O	greater board room
,	with attack
f	with initiative
„	with counterplay
⊙	zugzwang
#	mate
!	a very good move
!!	an excellent move
?	a mistake
??	a blunder
!?	a move deserving attention
?!	a dubious move
Δ	with the idea
™	only move
1	better is
‡	centre
♔	king's side
♚	queen's side

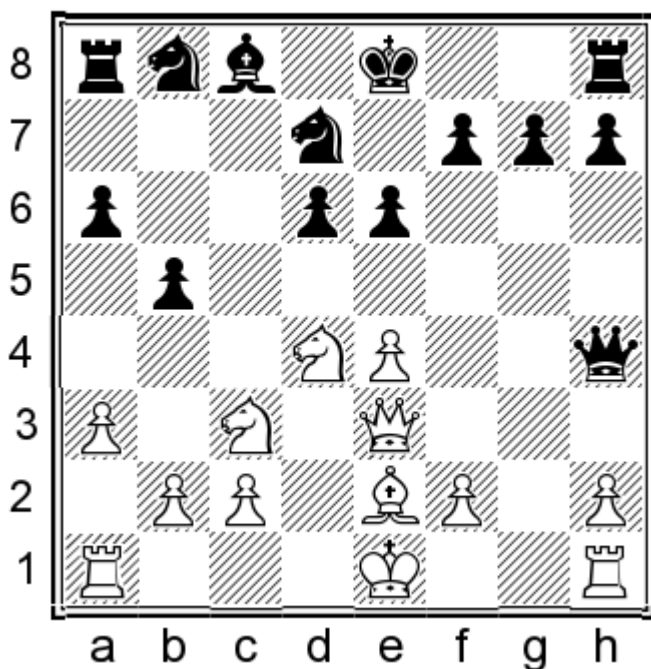
×	weak point
—	endgame
®	bishops of opposite color
-	bishops of the same color
♙	double pawns
1/4	passed pawn
>	advantage in number of pawns
†	time
86/203	Chess Informant
E 12	Encyclopaedia of Chess Openings
3/b	Encyclopaedia of Chess Endings
N	a novelty
(ch)	championship
(izt)	interzonal tournament
(ct)	candidates' tournament
(m)	match
(ol)	olympiad
corr.	correspondence game
RR	editorial comment
R	various moves
^a	with
—	see

147/62. B84

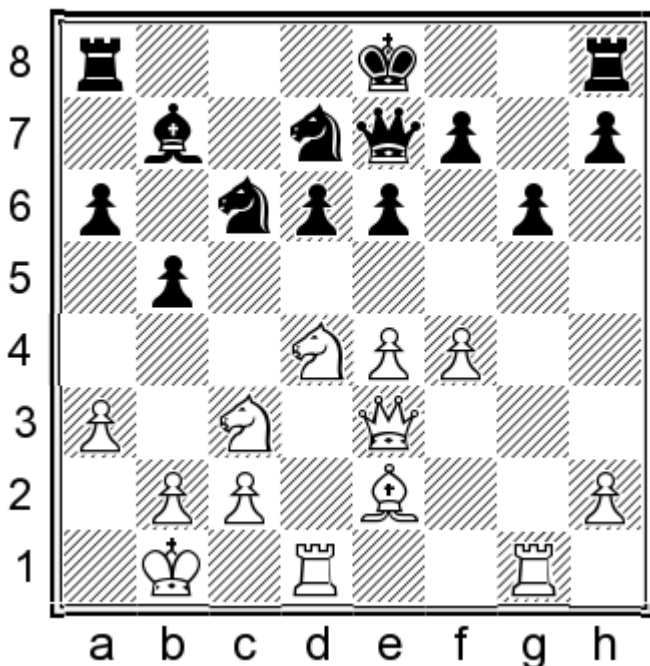
Andrey ESIPENKO 2677 — Magnus CARLSEN 2862

Wijk aan Zee 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e6 7.Be3 Be7 8.g4 b5
9.g5 Nfd7 10.a3 [10.f4 – 20/500] 10...Bg5 11.Qd2 Be3?! [RR 11...Bf6
12.0-0-0 Bb7 13.Rhg1 Nc5? 14.e5! Be5 15.Ndb5 Nb3 16.cb3 ab5 17.Bb5 Bc6
18.Bd4 Qc8 19.Be5 de5 20.Kb1 Rg8 21.Ne4!+-; 11...Be7 12.0-0-0 Bb7
13.Rhg1 g6 14.Bh6?! Nc6 15.Bg7 Rg8 16.Nc6 Bc6 17.Qh6 Qa5!µ; 14.f4 Jon
Speelman] 12.Qe3 Qh4?! N [12...Bb7]



13.Rg1! g6 [13...Ne5 14.0-0-0 0-0 15.f4 Ng6 16.Rdf1 ±,] 14.0-0-0 [RR
14.Rg5 Ne5 Jon Speelman] 14...Qe7 [14...e5 15.Nf3 Qf4 16.Qf4 ef4
17.Rd6+-; 14...0-0 15.Nf3 Qe7 16.h4 Bb7 17.h5+-; RR 14...Bb7 15.Rg5!?
Nc6 16.Nc6 Bc6 17.Rd6 Jon Speelman] 15.f4 [15.e5!? d5 16.f4 Bb7 17.f5!
Nc6 (17...gf5 18.Bh5+-) 18.fe6 fe6 19.Ne6! Qe6 20.Bg4+-] 15...Bb7 16.Kb1
Nc6 [RR 16...0-0 17.h4 Nc6 18.Nf3 Rfd8 19.h5; ¹ 16...Nc5 17.b4 Na4
18.Na4 (18.Ndb5 ab5 19.Bb5 Bc6 20.Bc6 Nc6 21.Na4 Ra4 22.Qc3 0-0)
18...ba4 19.e5 d5 20.f5 gf5 21.c4² Jon Speelman]



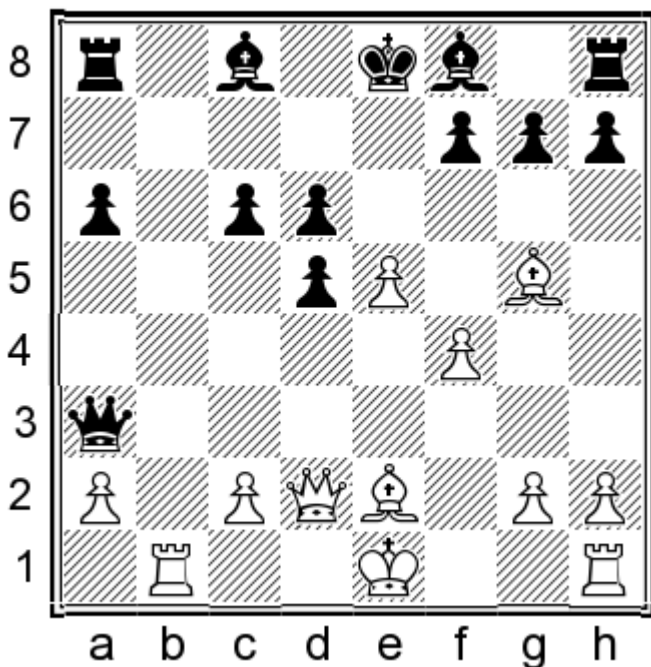
17.Ncb5! ab5 **18.Nc6 Bc6 19.Qc3 0-0 20.Qc6 d5** [20...Nf6 21.Qd6 Qb7
 22.Qe5 Ne4 23.Bb5+; RR 20...Nc5 21.Qd6 Qa7! 22.Bb5 Rab8 23.c4 Rfd8
 24.Qd8 Rd8 25.Rd8 Kg7 (Jon Speelman) 26.Rgd1²] **21.ed5** [RR 21.Bb5?!
 Nf6² Jon Speelman] **21...Rfc8** [21...ed5 22.Rge1+;] **22.d6 Qd8 23.Qb5+**–
 [23.Qe4!? +–] **23...Rcb8** [RR 23...Ra3 24.ba3 Rb8 25.Rg3+– Jon Speelman]
24.Qc4 Ra3 25.Qc7 Qe8 26.Rg5 [RR 26.Rg3!? Jon Speelman] **26...Ra4** [RR
 26...e5 27.Bg4 f5 28.Bf5 Qf7 29.Qb8 Nb8 30.ba3 Jon Speelman] **27.Ra5** [RR
 27.Bb5? Rb5! 28.Rb5 Qa8!µ Jon Speelman] **27...Rab4 28.b3 R4b7 29.Qc3**
Qd8 30.Bf3 Rb4 31.Qc7 Qf6 32.Ra8 [RR 32.Qd7?? Rb3! 33.cb3 Rb3 34.Kc2
 Qc3# Jon Speelman] **32...Ra8 33.Ba8 Qf5 34.Kb2 Rb5** [... Rc5; RR 34...Nf6
 35.d7 Nd7 36.Rd7 Rf4 37.Qc3 Jon Speelman] **35.Qd7 Rc5 36.Rc1 Qf4**
37.Qe8 Kg7 38.d7 [RR 38...Rc2 39.Rc2 Qd4 40.Ka2 Qa7 41.Kb1 Qg1
 42.Rc1 Qe3 43.Qb8; 38...Qd4 39.c3 Rc3 40.d8=Q Jon Speelman]
1 : 0 Tomislav Paunović

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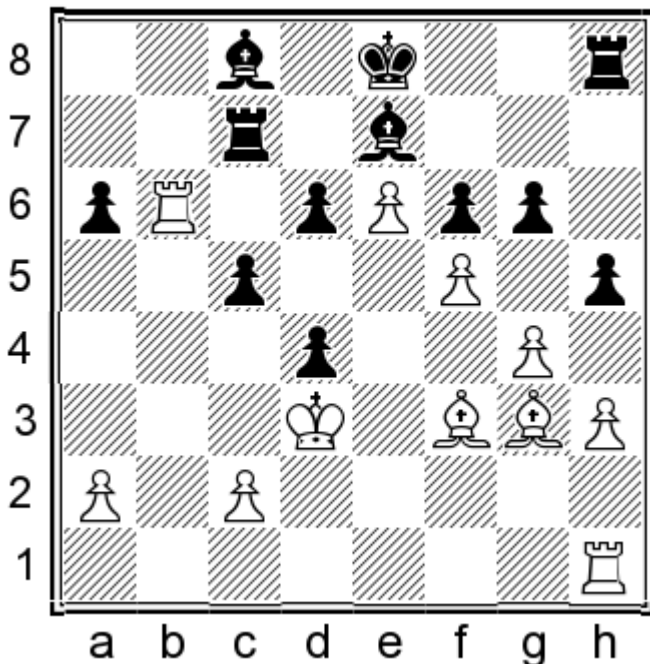
Fabiano CARUANA 2823 — Maxime VACHIER-LAGRAVE 2784

Wijk aan Zee 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Qd2
Qb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.Be2 Nc6 11.Nc6 bc6 12.e5 [12.0-0 – 36/346] 12...Nd5
13.Nd5 ed5? [13...cd5 14.0-0 h6 15.Bh4 de5 16.fe5 Be7 (16...Qa4? 17.c4 Bc5
18.Kh1 0-0 19.Rb3 dc4 20.Rg3 c3 21.Bf6+–; 21.Qh6+–) 17.Rb3 Qc5 18.Bf2
Qc7 19.Rg3 Bg5 20.Qd4 (20.Be3 Qe5³; 20.Rg5 hg5 21.Qg5 f5 22.Bh5 Kf8³)
20...0-0 21.h4 Bd8 22.Be3 f5 23.Bh6 Rf7 (23...Qb6? 24.Rg7 Kh8 25.c3 ±)
24.c4²]



14.e6! N [14.0-0] 14...f6 [14...fe6 15.f5 e5 16.0-0 h6 17.f6 hg5 18.fg7 Bg7
19.Qg5 Qc5 20.Kh1 Qa7 21.Qg6 Kd8 22.Rf7+–; 14...Be6 15.0-0 Qc5 16.Kh1
Bf5 17.Rb7 Be4 18.c4 f6 19.Qb2 fg5 20.Bh5 Kd8 21.Rb8 Rb8 22.Qb8 Kd7
23.Qb7 Kd8 24.Bg4+–] 15.Bh5 Kd8 16.Bh4 d4 17.Bf2 Qc3 18.f5 Qd2
19.Kd2 c5 20.Bf3 Ra7 21.g4 g6 22.Bh4 Be7 23.Rb6 h5 24.h3 Ke8 25.Bg3
Rc7 26.Kd3+–



26...hg4 27.hg4 Rh1 28.Bh1 gf5 29.gf5 Bf8 30.Kc4 Rh7 31.Be4 Be7 32.Bd6
Bd6 33.Rd6 Bb7 34.Bb7 Rb7 35.Ra6 Rb2 36.Kc5 Rc2 37.Kd4
1 : 0 Jon Speelman

B97

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Qd2 Qb2 9.Rb1 Qa3
10.Be2

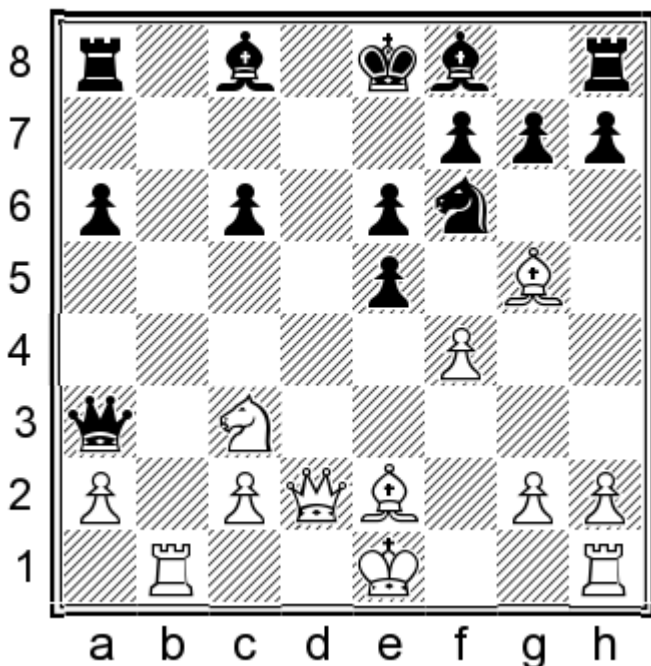
10...Nc6 11.Nc6 bc6 12.e5 Nd5 13.Nd5 ed5 14.e6! 2 f6 3 15.Bh5 Kd8 16.Bh4 d4 17.Bf2 Qc3
18.f5 Qd2+- 4

13...cd5 14.0-0 h6 5 15.Bh4 de5 16.fe5 Be7 6 17.Rb3 Qc5 18.Bf2 Qc7² 7

10...Nbd7 11.0-0 Qc5 8 12.Kh1 Be7 13.f5 e5 14.Ne6 fe6 15.fe6 Nb6 9 16.Rf6 Bf6 17.Bf6 Be6
10 18.Bg7 Rg8= 11

15...Nf8 16.Bf6 gf6 17.Nd5 h6! 12 18.Nb6 Rb8= 13

1
12...de5



a) 13.Bf6 gf6

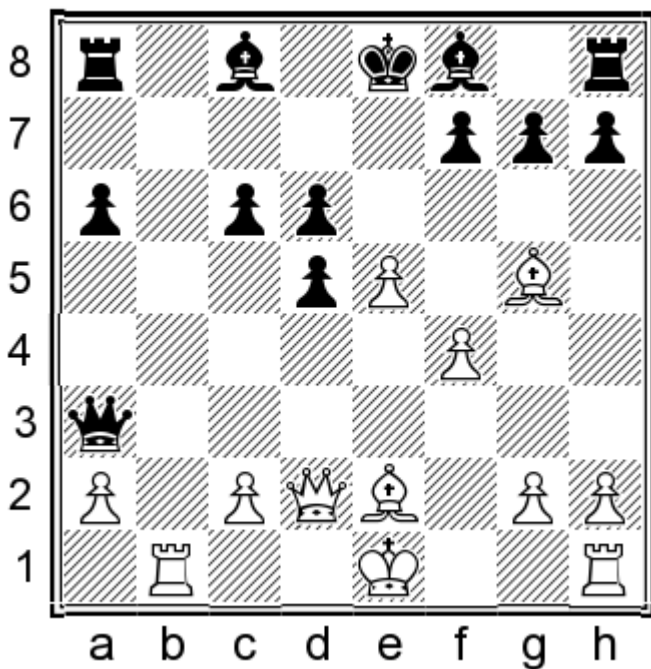
a1) 14.Ne4 Bh6 [14...Be7? 15.fe5 fe5 16.0-0 h5 17.Bf3 Bd7 18.Rb7 0-0-0 19.Rfb1 1 : 0 Alain Leclerc – Gilles Pech, corr. 1983] 15.0-0! f5 16.Nd6 Kf8 17.Bh5 [17.Nc8 Rc8 18.Qd7 Qe3 19.Kh1 Qe2 20.Qc8 Kg7 21.Qc6 Bf4 ∞] 17...Bf4 18.Rf4 ef4 19.Nf7 Rg8 20.Qd8 Kg7 21.Qg5 Kf8=;

a2) 14.Bf3 Qc5 15.Na4 Qd6 16.Qd6 Bd6 17.Bc6 Bd7 18.Bd7 Kd7 19.Nb6 Kc6 20.Na8 Ra8 21.fe5 fe5 22.Rb3 ±;

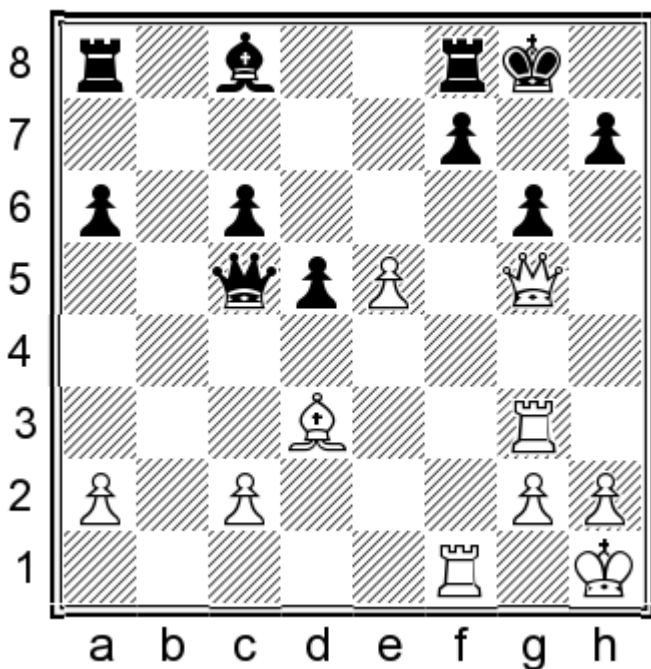
b) 13.fe5

b1) 13...Nd7 14.0-0 Qc5 15.Kh1 Qe5 16.Bh5 Nf6 17.Rbe1 Qa5 18.Rf6! gf6 19.Bf6 Rg8 20.Rd1! [20.Re5 Qc7 21.Ne4 Rb8 ∞ Jens Thalwitzer – Fischer, corr. 1988/89] 20...Be7 21.Be7 Ra7 [21...Ke7 22.Qd6 Kf6 23.Rf1 Kg7 24.Rf7 Kh8 25.Qe7+–] 22.Bb4+–;

b2) 13...Nd5 14.Rb3! [14.Nd5 cd5 15.0-0 – 12...Nd5] 14...Qa5 15.0-0 Bc5 16.Kh1 ±



14.0-0 de5 15.fe5 Be7 16.Rb3 Bg5! 17.Qg5 Qc5 18.Kh1 0-0 19.Rg3 g6
20.Bd3



20...Ra7! 21.h4 Re8 ∞ Valeri Tsaturian – Borislav Perfanov, corr. 1985

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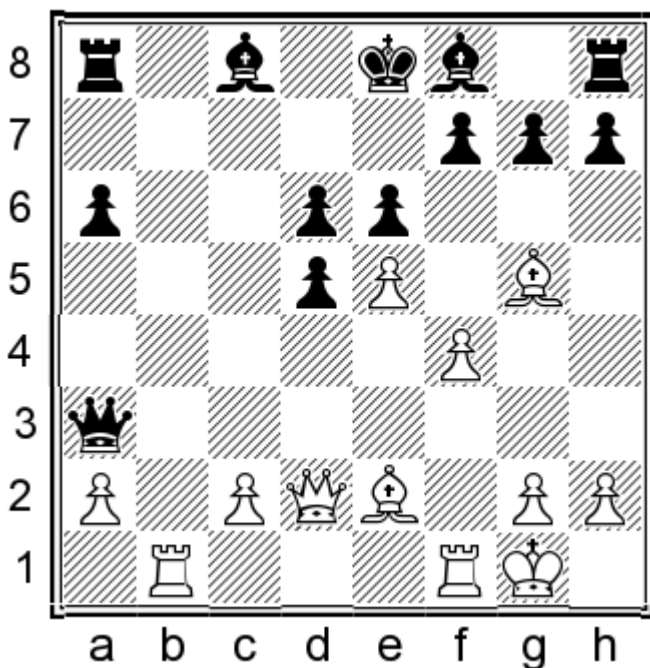
14...fe6 15.f5 e5 16.0-0 h6 17.f6 hg5 18.fg7 Bg7 19.Qg5 Qc5 20.Kh1 Qa7
21.Qg6 Kd8 22.Rf7+– Jon Speelman;

14...Be6 15.0-0 Qc5 16.Kh1 Bf5 17.Rb7 Be4 18.c4 f6 19.Qb2 fg5 20.Bh5 Kd8
21.Rb8 Rb8 22.Qb8 Kd7 23.Qb7 Kd8 24.Bg4+– Jon Speelman

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19.Kd2 c5 20.Bf3 Ra7 21.g4 g6 22.Bh4 Be7 23.Rb6 h5 24.h3 Ke8 25.Bg3 Rc7
26.Kd3+– **Fabiano Caruana 2823 – Maxime Vachier-Lagrave 2784, Wijk
aan Zee 2021 – 147/83**

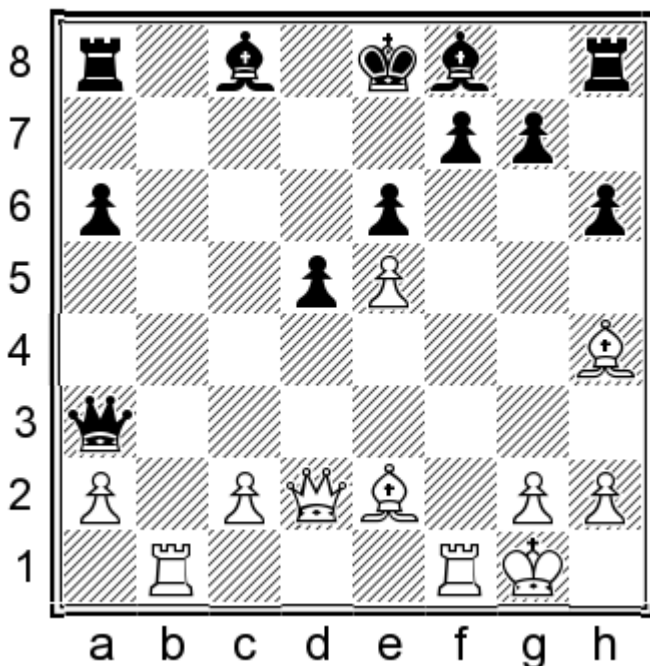
5



**14...Be7?! 15.Be7 Ke7 16.f5! h6 17.fe6 fe6 18.Qf4+– de5 19.Qe5 Rg8 20.Qc7
Bd7 21.Rb3 Qa4 [21...Qd6 22.Rf7 1 : 0 Davor Krivić – Karl-Heinz Hallier,
corr. 1983/84] 22.Qc5 Kd8 23.Rf8 Rf8 24.Qf8 Be8 25.Rb7 1 : 0 Davor Krivić
– Karl-Heinz Hallier, corr. 1984/85;**

14...de5 15.fe5 Ra7 16.Rb3 [16.Rb8 Rc7 17.Qf4 Bc5 18.Kh1 Rf8 19.Qg4 ±]
16....Qa4 (Lothar Mittag – Siegmund Heinel, corr. 1975/77) 17.Qc3 Qd7
18.Bh5 g6 19.Bf6 Rg8 20.Be2 ±

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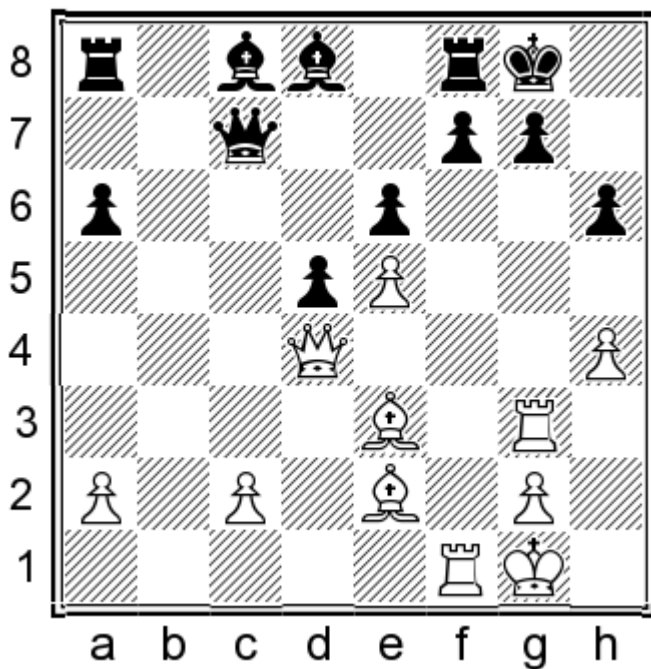


16...Qa4? 17.c4 Bc5 18.Kh1 0-0 19.Rb3 dc4 20.Rg3 c3 21.Qh6+–; 21.Bf6+– Jon Speelman;

16...Bc5 17.Kh1 Qe3 [17...Be3?! 18.Qe1 Bg5 19.Bf2 0-0 20.Rb3 Qa4 21.Bc5 Bd7 22.Bf8 Rf8 23.Rb7 Bb5 24.Bb5 ab5 25.Qf2 f5 26.Qb6+– Alexander Goldberg – Horst Selke, corr. 1983/84] 18.Qa5 0-0 19.Bh5 Qe5 20.Qc5 Qh5 21.Be7 Bd7 22.Bf8 Rf8 23.c4² Jon Speelman

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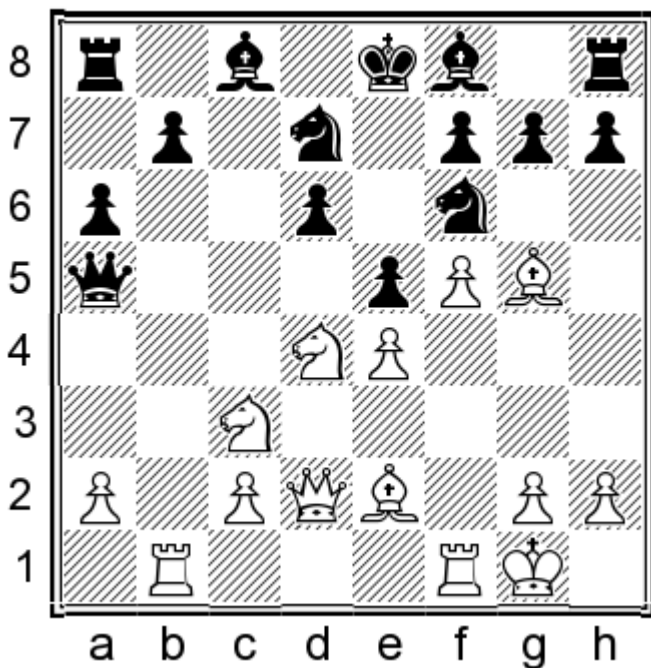
19.Rg3 Bg5 20.Qd4 [20.Be3?! Qe5³; 20.Rg5?! hg5 21.Qg5 f5 22.Bh5 Kf8³] 20...0-0 21.h4 Bd8 22.Be3



22...f5! 23.Bh6 Rf7 [23...Qb6? 24.Rg7 Kh8 25.c3 ±] 24.c4²

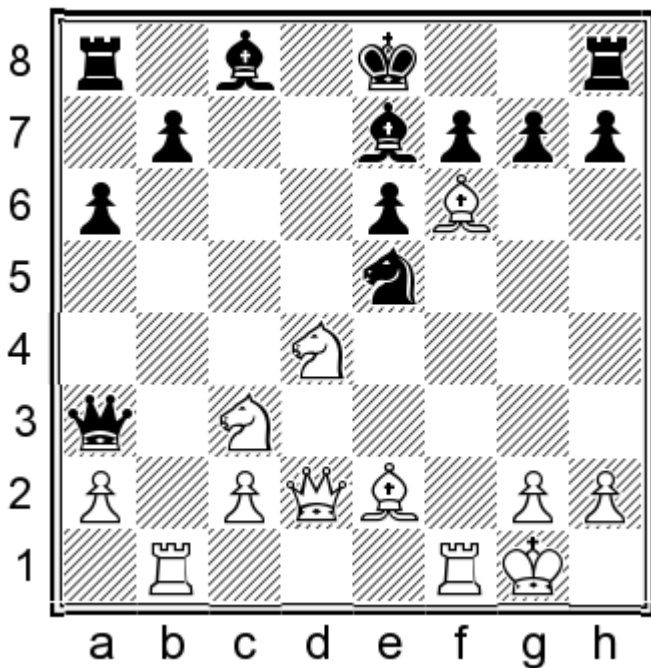
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11...Qa5?! 12.f5 e5



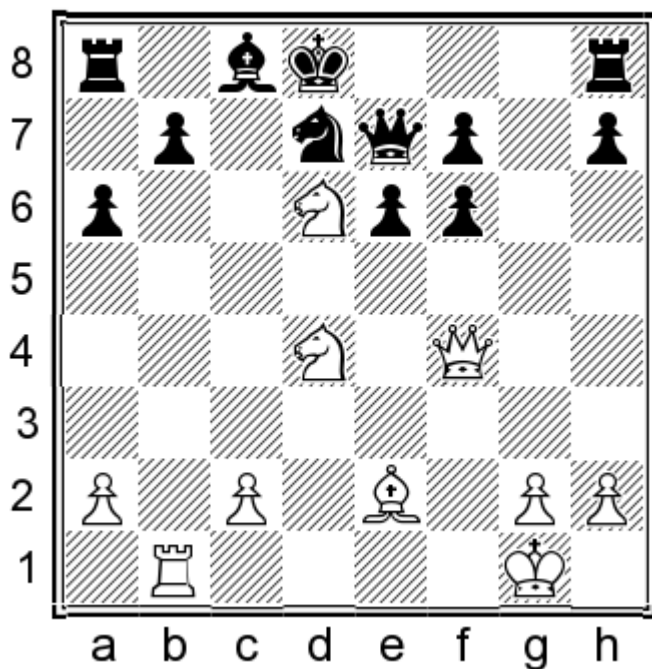
13.Ne6! fe6 14.fe6 Be7 15.ed7 Bd7 16.Rb7 ± Tom Wedberg 2500 – Ole Jakobsen 2445, København 1983 – 38/367;

11...Be7 12.e5 de5 13.fe5 Ne5 14.Bf6



a) 14...Bf6 15.Rf6 gf6 16.Ne4 Qe7 17.Qf4

a1) 17...Nd7 18.Nd6 Kd8



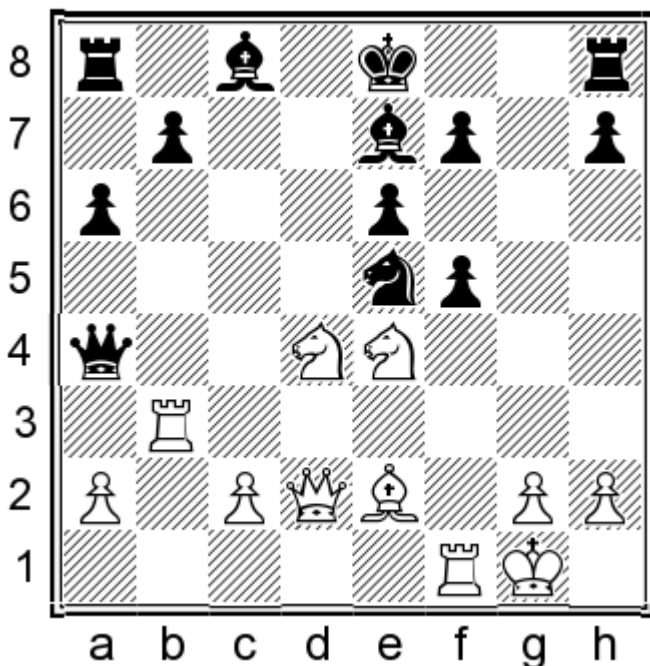
19.Rb7!

a11) 19...Bb7 20.Nb7 Ke8 [20...Kc8 21.Nd6 Kc7 22.N6b5 Kd8 23.Nc6+—]
21.Nd6 Kf8 22.Nc6+—;

a12) 19...Qd6 20.Qd6 Bb7 21.Bh5² Joaquín Jiménez – Eduardo Briano, corr.
1994;

a2) 17...Kd8 18.Nf6 Nd7 ∞ Mihail Tal 2605 – L'ubomir Ftáčnik 2560, Sochi
1982 – 34/354;

b) 14...gf6 15.Ne4 f5 16.Rb3 Qa4

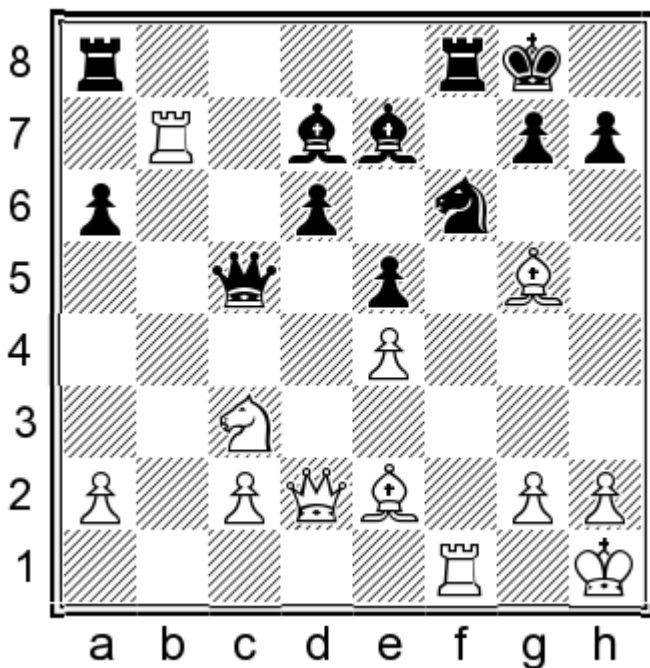


b1) 17.Qc3 Rg8 18.Nc5 Bc5 19.Qc5 Nc6 20.Bb5 ab5 21.Nb5 Qa5! 22.Qd6 f6
23.Nc7 Kf7 24.Na8 Qa8μ Bernd Hanisch – Alexander Bangiev, corr.
1987/88;

b2) 17.Nf5 ef5 18.Nd6 Bd6 19.Qd6 Qe4 20.Re1 Nc6 21.Kf1 Be6 22.Bh5 Qc4
23.Rd3 Nd8 24.Re6 Qe6 25.Qd4 Rg8 26.Re3 Ke7 [26...Rc8 27.Re6 Ne6
28.Qf6 Rg6 29.Qf5 Ke7 30.Bg6 hg6 31.Qe4 Rc7² Sven Teichmeister – Carlos
Cranbourne, corr. 1999/2000] 27.Re6 fe6 [27...Ne6? 28.Qb4 Kf6 (Faruk Tairi
2443 – Torbjörn Glimbrant 2342, Sverige 2007) 29.Qb2 Ke7 30.Qb7 ±]
28.Qh4 Kd7 29.Bf3 h5 30.Qd4 Ke7 1/2 : 1/2 Norbert Fleurackers – Karlheinz
Weber, corr. 1999

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15...0-0 16.ed7 Bd7 17.Rb7



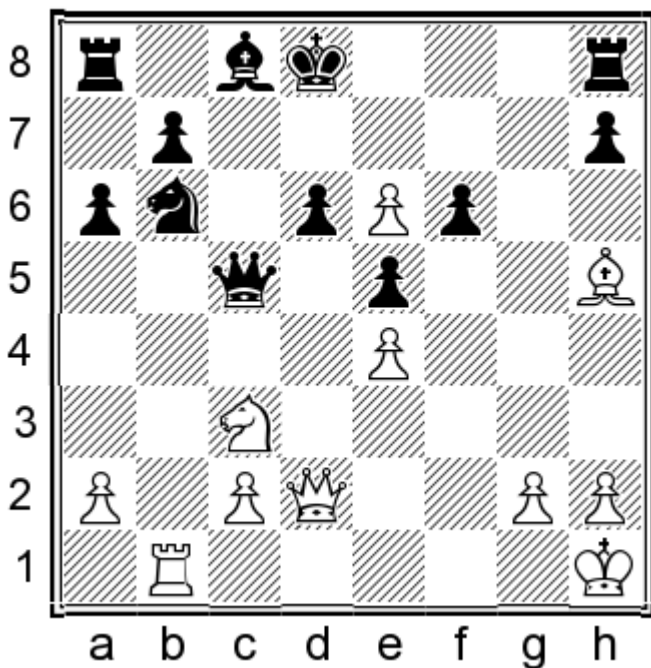
17...Ng4!

a) 18.Rf8 Rf8 19.Qd5 Qd5 20.Nd5 Bg5 21.Rd7 Nf2 [21...Rb8?! (Tatiana Shadrina 2380 – Alisa Galliamova 2502, Russia (ch) 2004) 22.g3 Nf2 23.Kg2 Ne4 24.Kf3 Nc5 25.Rd6²] 22.Kg1 Ne4 23.Ba6 Rf7 24.Rf7 Kf7= Manfred Pichler – Fred Kunzelmann, corr. 1986/87;

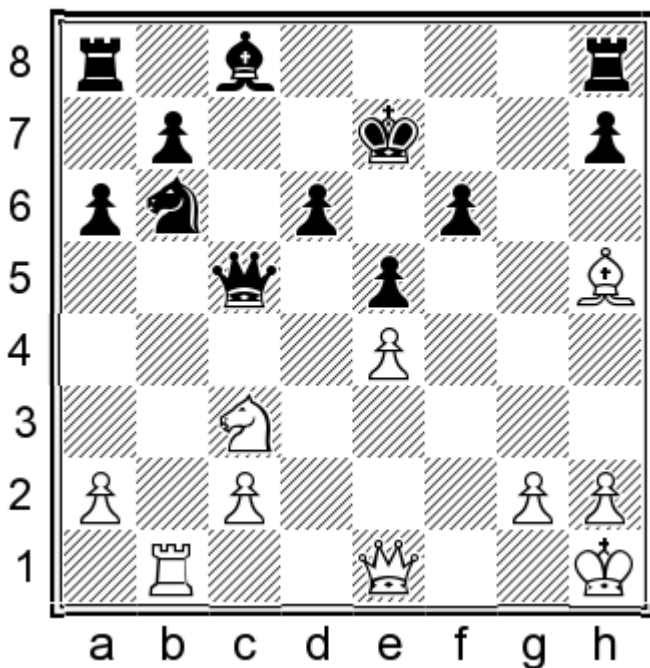
b) 18.Qd5 Qd5 19.Nd5 Rf1 20.Bf1 Bg5 21.Rd7 (Dan Hansson 2320 – Gulmundur Sigurjónsson 2470, Neskaupstaður 1984 – 39/(335)) 21...Nf2 22.Kg1 Ne4=

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17...gf6 18.Bh5 Kd8



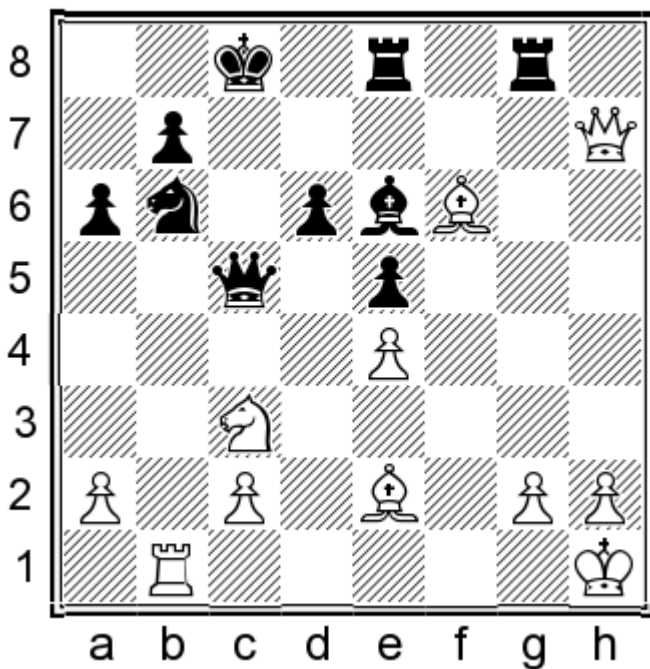
19.e7! Kd7 [19...Ke7 20.Rb6 h6 21.h3 Rb8 22.Nd5 Kd8 23.Bf7© Henryk Chomiccki – Zdzisław Gil, corr. 2003; 19...Kc7 20.Rb6 Be6 (Jonas Dahlgren – Anders Moborn, corr. 1987/88) 21.Na4 Qa3 22.g3 Rhe8 23.Qa5 Qc1 24.Kg2 Qc2 25.Kg1 Kb8 26.Be8 Qd1 27.Kf2 Qd4 28.Kf3 Qd1= Goran Arsović] 20.Qe1 Ke7



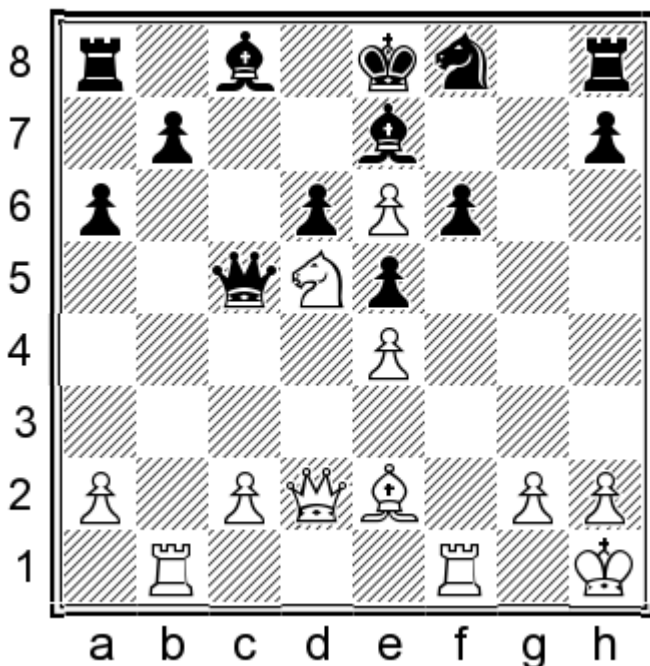
21.Rb6! Kd8 22.Nd5 Be6 23.Rb7 Bd5 24.ed5 Qc2 25.Bg4 Rg8 26.h3 Rg4
27.hg4 Rc8 28.Kh2 Qg6 29.Qh4 1/2 : 1/2 Rainer Zajontz – Horst Hunger,
corr. 2009

11

19.Qh6 Kd7 20.Qh7 Rae8 21.Bf6 Kc8



22.Ba6! ba6 23.Na4! Qc2= 24.Nb6 Kb8 25.Nd7 Ka8 26.Nb6 1/2 : 1/2
 Gerfried Scholz – Walter Alberti, corr. 2001



17...Be6? 18.Ne7 Ke7 19.Qh6 Ng6 20.Qg7 Kd8 21.Qf6 Kd7 22.Qg7 Kd8 23.Rb7 Re8 24.Qf6 Kc8 25.Rfb1! Qc6 (Frank Holzke 2489 – Martin Senff 2474, Deutschland 2007) 26.Qg7 Re7 27.Re7 Ne7 28.Qe7+;

17...h5 18.Rf6 Ne6 19.Rh6 Rh6 [19...Rg8?! 20.Bh5 Kd8 21.Ne7 Ke7 22.Rh7 Kd8 23.Bf7 Ng5 24.Bg8 Nh7 25.Bh7 ± Aleksandar Vujanović – Alexander Dyakov, corr. 2004] 20.Qh6 (Péter Pető – Navid Chaeichi, corr. 2005) 20...Qf2 21.Qh7 Qf8 22.g3²; 22.Rf1!?

13

19.Bh5 Kd8 20.Rf3 Be6 21.Rc3 Qd4 22.Rd3 (1/2 : 1/2 Alberto De Zan – Manuel Vega Palma, corr. 2009/10) 22...Qc5=

CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT 2020/21

By GM Ivan Sokolov

TOURNAMENT REVIEW

Nepomniachtchi to challenge Carlsen for the World Championship title

Eagerly awaited resumption of the Candidates Tournament finally happened in April and produced (as expected) fighting chess with some surprises along the way.

In the period of more than a year only two top level over-the-board tournaments took place - Norway Chess and Tata Steel in Wijk aan Zee.

Internet events took place on regular bases, but those events were of a different type, and also very different time limit (so not comparable to the task players were facing now at the Candidates). Such a long absence of top level over-the-board events affected some players more than the others.



Ian Nepomniachtchi, Yekaterinburg 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

Ivan Sokolov

• **Country:** Netherlands

• **Born:** 1968

• **Rating:** 2595

• **Peak rating:** 2706

• **Title:** Grandmaster since 1987



The aforementioned circumstances affected Maxime Vachier-Lagrave's form as he already had poor showings at the Tata Steel event. Maxime continued to struggle and (at early resumption stage) dropped out of the race.

Wang Hao was another player who has been clearly been affected by the absence of over-the-board events. In the 'resumption part' he lost four games out of seven (!), but actually did not have to lose any single game. No wonder this caused incredible frustration. Wang Hao even declared to be quitting competitive chess. I hope he will let the time heal the wounds and change his mind.

The tournament finally turned to be the race between Nepomniachtchi and Giri.

Nepo had two (for me) surprising wins. Win versus Alekseenko was surprisingly easy, as the young Russian (normally well prepared) did not really get out of the opening. The victory versus Wang Hao was (for me) surprising too, as Black rarely wins in that opening line.

Giri played dynamic chess, became more of a "risk taker", but his loss versus Grischuk sealed his fate. In the last round Anish lost to Alekseenko too. For Anish that game was (definitely) 'anticlimax', but nevertheless I was quite impressed by technical win of the young Russian.

Making a game selection (from such an event) is never an easy task.

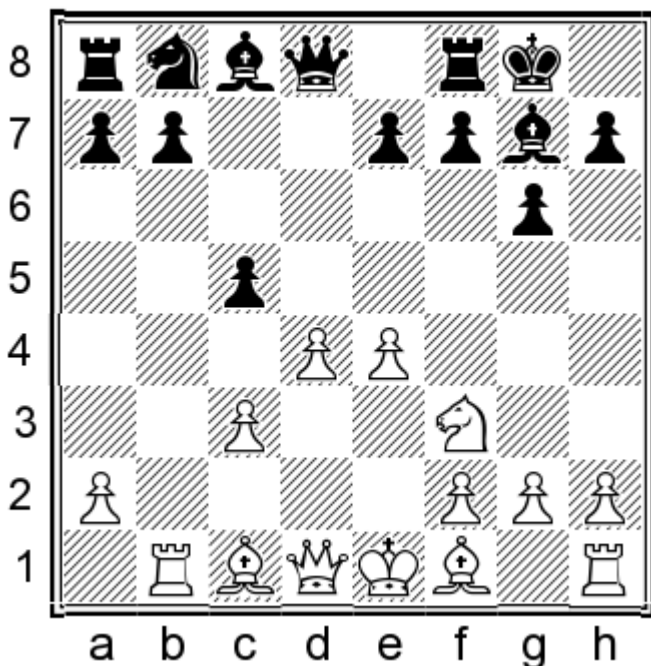
I have tried to make combination of important games (for the tournament outcome), opening theory new ideas, and generally instructive examples.

I hope to have succeeded!

D85

Grischuk, Alexander (2777) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2774)
Yekaterinburg (ct), 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5 8.Rb1 O-O

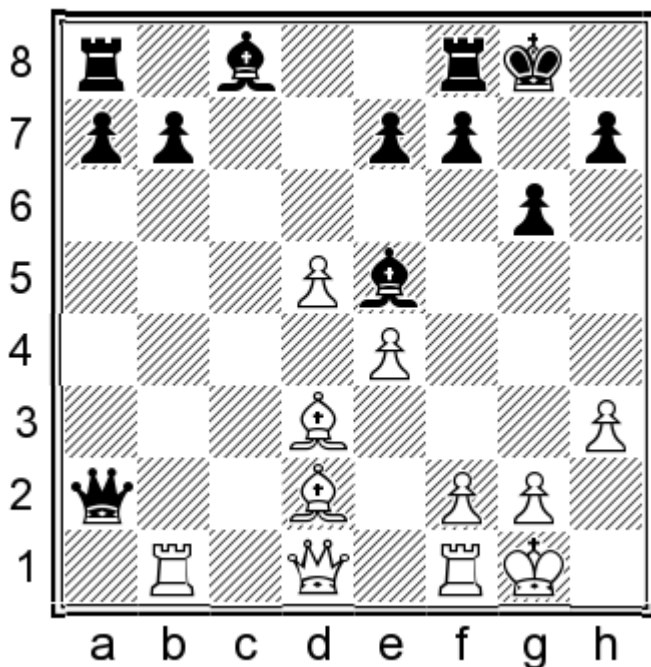


9.h3 A novelty on move nine in the Gruenfeld! Strictly speaking this is not a novelty as we have a few games here, but all are low rated games. This game is important for the opening theory, as it may simply open a 'new Gruenfeld line'. I have tried to analyse (and share with readers) Black's main moves and assumed as to what Grischuk's plan (to respond) might have been. As usual (in the Gruenfeld) Black is able to get reasonable play (most probably to equalise). Future developments (in this line) will tell if Grischuk planned this as "multi-use" variation or as "one-off" surprise. When analysing this line, we naturally often need to compare (resulting) positions to the 9.Be2 line. Nepomniachtchi chooses one of the most logical responses.

9...Nc6

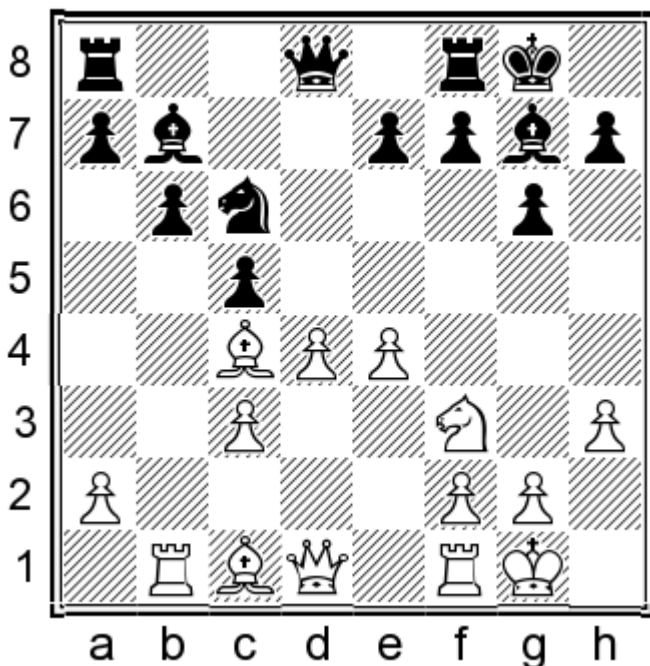
One of the main Black's lines in 9.Be2 is queen sortie to a5 and we have to consider this one of the Black's main responses here too 9...Qa5 10.Bd2 (10.Rb5 is probably not to be recommended for White, as after 10...Qxc3+ (10...Qxa2 11.Rxc5²) 11.Bd2 Qa3 12.Rxc5 Be6! If somebody stands better here, it is not White. White's problem is that he cannot harmoniously and quickly develop, as (The pawn on d4 cannot be immediately taken as 12...Bxd4?? simply blunders a piece to 13.Ra5 Qd6 14.Rd5 + -; 12...Qxa2 is risky for Black as White gets strong initiative (likely worth more than a pawn) after 13.Bc4 Qa3 14.O-O Nc6 15.Bc1 Qb4 16.Be3f) 13.Be2? loses a pawn for no compensation 13...Bxd4 14.Ra5 Qd6 15.Nxd4 Qxd4 16.O-O Nc6μ)

10...Qxa2 11.Bd3 it makes sense for Black to take on d4 (to activate his bishop). 11...cxd4 (Immediate 11...Nc6 looks promising for White after 12.d5 Ne5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.O-O©) 12.cxd4 Nc6 13.d5 Ne5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.O-O©



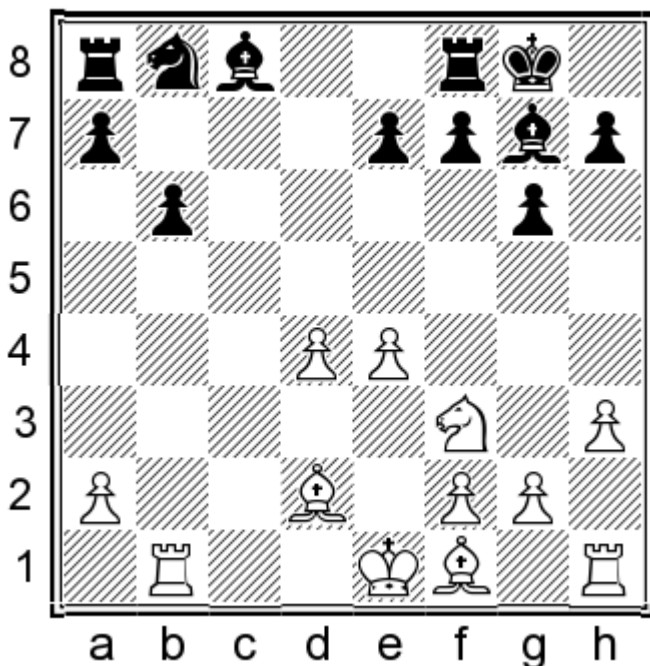
We have type of play similar to the 9.Be2 pawn sacrifice on a2 lines. White has compensation, but (perhaps) not more. Both side have quite a number of possibilities here (improvements and new ideas are definitely possible), but I will give one logical "run of play". 15...Bd7 16.Rxb7 Ba4 17.Qe2 Rfb8 18.Bc4 Qc2 19.Bd3 Qa2 20.Bc4 Qc2 = if White wants to avoid draw, he needs to opt for material imbalance: 21.Rc1 Qxc1+ 22.Bxc1 Rxb7 23.f4 with unclear play 23...Bd4+ 24.Kh2 ∞ (24.Be3 ∞)

In case of 9...b6 White's best is probably 10.Bc4! (10.Be3 Bb7 11.Bd3 does not bring opening advantage to White. 11...Nc6 12.Be2 Na5 13.Qd3 (13.Bd3 Nc6 =) 13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Rc8 15.O-O - and now Black has a bit unusual knight manoeuvre: 15...Nc4 16.Bf4 Nd6 17.Nd2 (17.d5?? Rc3- +) 17...Qd7 =) 10...Bb7 Now White can go for a pawn sacrifice idea seen in the 9.Be2 (instead of 9.h3) line: (In case of 10...Nc6 11.O-O Bb7



White gets advantage with temporary pawn sacrifice: 12.d5! Na5 13.Be2 Bxc3 14.Qc2 Bg7 15.Bd2 Qc7 16.Rfc1 Black's queenside pawn structure will be damaged, White will get his pawn back and then 16...Rac8 17.Bxa5 bxa5 18.Qd2 Rfd8 now the most straightforward for White is 19.Rb5 (19.Qe3 planning to collect the black c5-pawn a bit later, is also good for White.) 19...e6 20.Rbxc5 Qd6 21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Rxc8+ Bxc8 23.Bc4f (Or 23.Qxa5 exd5 24.exd5 White is a pawn up, but Black has good drawing chances.)) 11.d5! Bxc3+ 12.Bd2 Bg7 White definitely has good compensation here - 13.h4© (My computer engine prefers 13.Qe2©) 13...Qc8 14.h5 Ba6 (14...Qg4?? is a blunder. 15.Rh4 +- Qxg2?? 16.Bf1) 15.Qe2 Bxc4 16.Qxc4 Qa6 17.Rb5 Nd7 18.a4f and for his minimal material investment White got excellent attacking prospects.

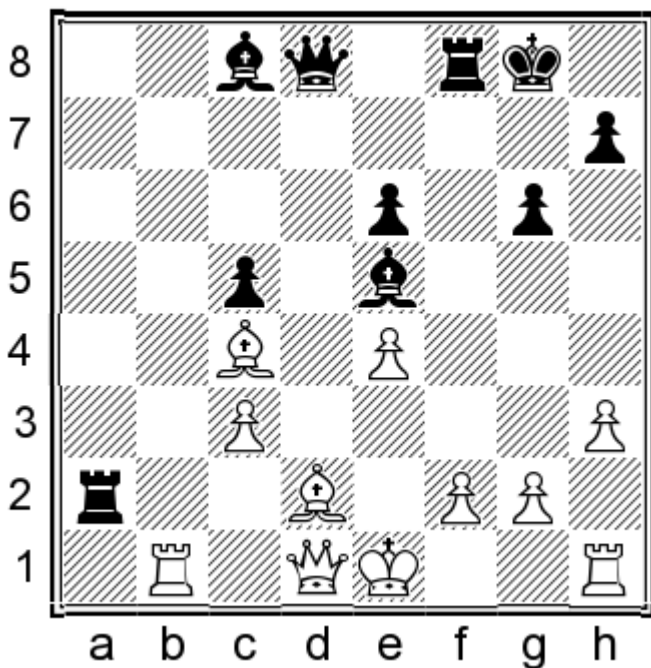
9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa5+ gives (compared to 9...Qa5) White an extra possibility in 11.Qd2 (11.Bd2 Qxa2 12.Bd3© transposes to the 9...Qa5 line.) 11...Qxd2+ 12.Bxd2 b6



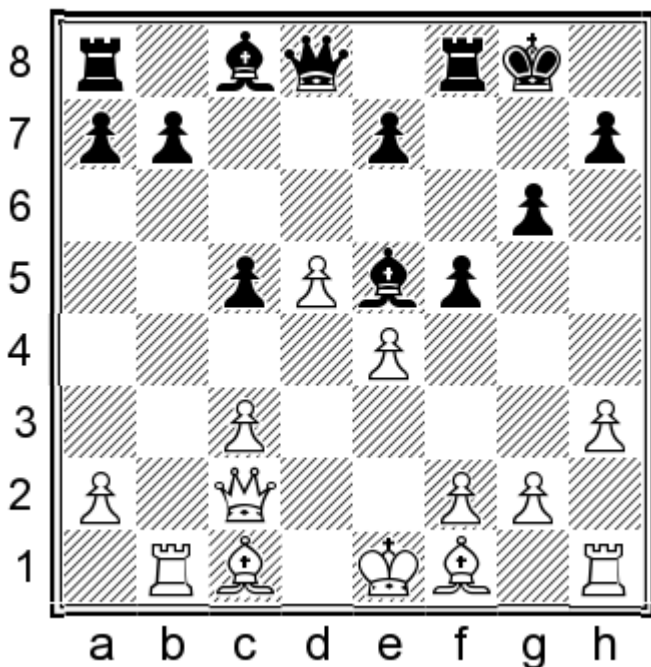
This position is probably about equal. 13.Bd3 Rd8 14.Rc1 (In case of 14.Be3 Nc6 15.d5 we have a typical Gr~unfeld type of play (for similar lines), Black not being worse. 15...e6 16.Bg5 f6 17.Bb5 Na5 18.Bf4 exd5 19.Bc7 Rf8 20.exd5 Rf7 21.d6 Bd7 and White needs to be careful not to get in trouble here.; White does not get enough compensation in case of 14.Ke2?! Bxd4 15.Nxd4 Rxd4³) 14...Bb7 15.Ke2 Now we (likely) get drawish outcome after 15...Bxd4! 16.Nxd4 Rxd4 17.Be3 (17.Rc7??? is a terrible blunder due to 17...Ba6 18.Bxa6 Rxe4+- +) 17...Ra4 18.Rc7 Ba6 19.Rd1 Bxd3+ 20.Rxd3 Rxa2+ 21.Kf3 Na6 22.Rxe7 Nc5 23.Bxc5 bxc5 24.Rdd7 Rf8 White has an academic advantage, so a draw is the most likely result.

10.d5 Bxc3+ The most principled for Black.

In case of 10...Ne5 11.Nxe5 Bxe5 White is probably better after 12.Qc2! The most logical for Black here is to hit White's centre with typical Gruenfeld ...e6 or ...f5 pawn-pushes. (12.Bd2 e6 leads to equality. (12...f5!?) 13.Bc4 a6 14.dxe6 (14.a4 b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.Bxb5 exd5 and now 17.Bc6 is risky for White after 17...Ba6© (My computer engine is quite happy with the rook sacrifice 17...dxe4 18.Bxa8 Qd3©)) 14...fxe6 15.O-O (15.a4? b5µ 16.axb5 axb5 17.Bxb5 Ra2 18.Bc4



and now Black has a nice tactical motif 18...Rxf2! 19.Bxa2 Bg3- +) 15...b5
 16.Be2 Bb7 17.Qc2∞) 12...f5



(12...e6 now does not work well for Black, as after simple 13.Bc4± Black

does not have a good follow-up. 13...a6 (13...Qf6 White can now sacrifice a pawn and capitalise on "factor time". 14.O-O! Bxc3 15.Bh6 Black is behind in development and cannot coordinate his pieces. 15...Rd8 (15...Re8 16.Bb5 Rd8 17.Qc1 ±) 16.dxe6 fxe6 17.Kh1 Bd4 18.f4 + -) 14.dxe6 fxe6 15.a4 Qf6 16.O-O Bxc3 17.Bg5 Qe5 18.Bh6 Rf7 19.Kh1 + - with f4 to follow and Black's position will quickly collapse, or in computer language more than plus two.) 13.Bd3! is White's best, leading to some advantage. (13.Bh6 Rf7 14.f4 looks also logical, but leads to equal endgame, e.g. 14...Bg7 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Bc4 fxe4 17.Qxe4 Qd6 18.Qe5+ Qxe5+ 19.fxe5 Rf5 20.e6 b6 21.g4 Re5+ 22.Kd2 Bb7 23.Rhe1 Rxe1 24.Rxe1 Rd8 25.Ke3 b5 26.Rf1 bxc4 27.Rf7+ Kh6 28.Rxe7 Bxd5 29.Rd7 Re8 =) 13...f4 optically (at first glance) Black seems to be doing well, however after 14.c4² White will play Bb2, trade the bishops and have space advantage (plus pressure on the b-file).

11.Bd2 Bxd2+ 12.Qxd2 Nd4 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.Bc4

14.Qxd4 leads to equality - 14...e6 15.Bc4 exd5 16.Bxd5 Be6 =

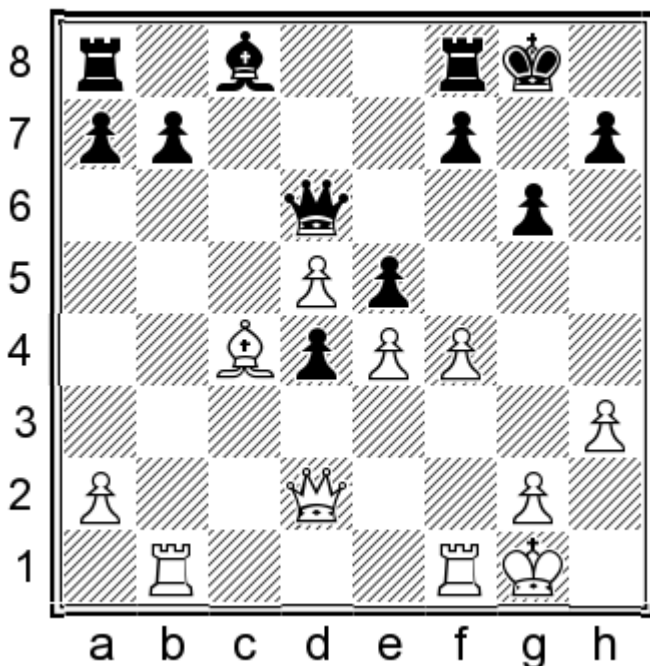
14...e5 The most consequent.

14...e6 is reasonable option as Black seems to be equalising after 15.O-O b6 16.Qxd4 (16.f4 Qe7 17.Rf3 Re8 = looks about equal too 18.Qxd4 exd5 19.Bxd5 Bb7) 16...exd5 17.Bxd5 Bb7 18.Rbc1 Qe7 19.h4 h5! = (19...Rad8 20.h5f)

15.O-O Qd6

Being greedy and trying to stick to material (hoping to keep his extra pawn) is not good for Black, as after 15...g5?! 16.Qb4 White will open up the position (push d6 at suitable moment) and Black will have problems.

16.f4



16...Rb8! Protecting the b7-pawn, (hence liberating Bc8) and also preparing the b5-counterplay.

16...Kg7?! 17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.Qf4 f6?! is bad for Black as White's rook(s) penetrate(s) and Black starts losing material. 19.Qxe5 fxe5 20.d6 Rb8 (20...Rd8 21.Rb5 Rxd6 22.Rxe5 Rd7 23.Bd5 +- d3 24.Re8) 21.Rxf8 Kxf8 22.Rb5 Bd7 23.Rxe5 b5 24.Be2 ±

17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.Qf4 White plays for the f-file pressure.

18.Rbd1 aiming to collect on d4 and then push central pawns leads (more or less) to a forced draw. 18...b5 19.Bb3 Bd7 20.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 21.Rxd4 a5 22.a3 Rfc8 23.d6 Be6 24.Bxe6 fxe6 25.e5 b4 26.axb4 axb4 27.Rb1 b3 28.Rb2 Rc2 29.Rxb3 Rxb3 30.d7 Rb8 =

18...Qxf4 19.Rxf4 Re8 Black wants to stop White's e5-pawn push.

19...Bd7 focusing on queenside counterplay, was leading to equality (and was perhaps Black's best). 20.e5 b5 21.Bb3 a5 22.d6 Bf5 23.Rd1 a4 24.Bd5 b4 25.g4 Be6 =

20.Bb5! Rd8 21.Rbf1

21.Bd3 leads to equality after 21...Bd7 22.e5 b5 23.Rxd4 a5 24.Kf2 Re8 25.Re1 b4 =;

21.Bc4! was offering some "advantage prospects". 21...b5 (21...Re8!?)

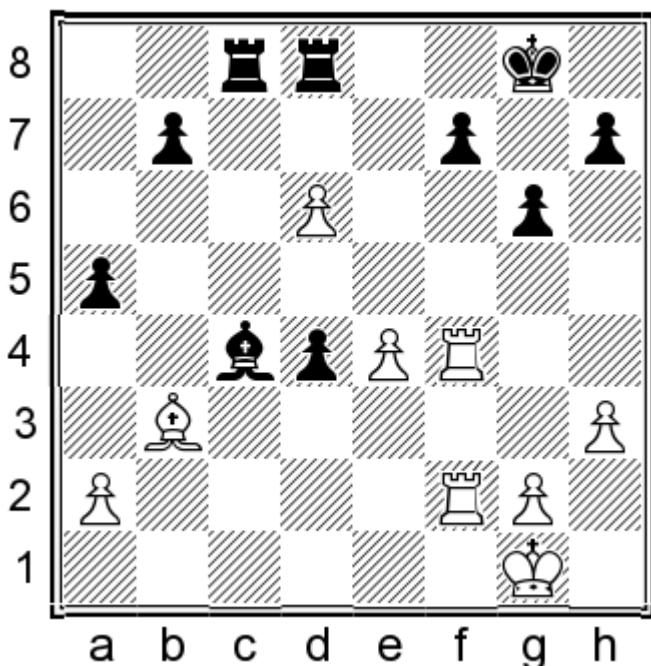
21...Bd7? is a blunder and leads to lost rook endgame (as Black is too slow with his counterplay). 22.d6 Be6 23.Bxe6 fxe6 24.e5 +- b5 25.Rf6 Re8 26.Rc1 d3 27.Kf2) 22.Rxb5 Rxb5 23.Bxb5 Bd7 24.Bc4 Re8²

21...Bd7 22.Bc4 Rbc8 23.Bb3 Black is out of any danger and White has to start thinking about the 'liquidation' (into a draw).

23...Bb5

23...a5 24.d6 Be6 =

24.R1f2 a5 25.d6 Bc4



Important moment!

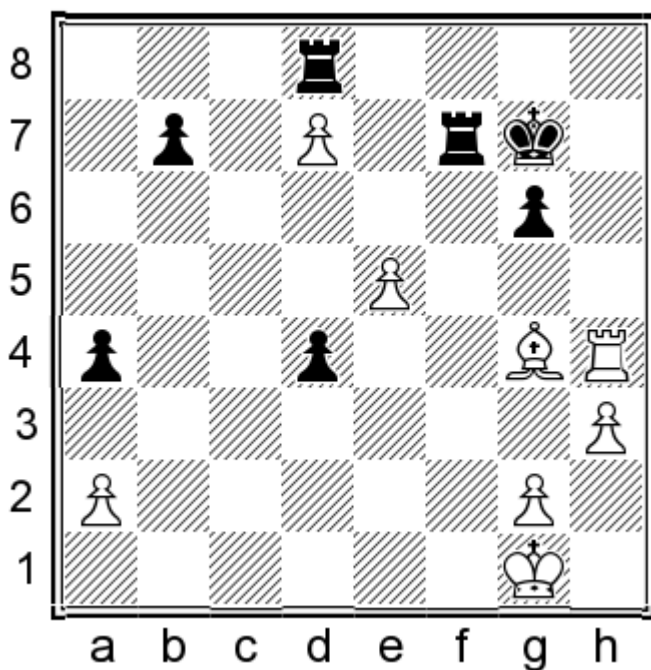
26.Rxf7? Grischuk probably miscalculated something as now Black gets his chance!

Position is equal and the most practical for White was to force a draw with 26.Bxc4 Rxc4 27.Rxf7 d3 (Or 27...Rxd6 28.Re7 (28.Rxb7? d3) 28...d3 29.Rff7 d2 30.Rg7+ =) 28.Re7 Rxd6 29.Rff7 d2 30.Rg7+ =

26...Bxb3?

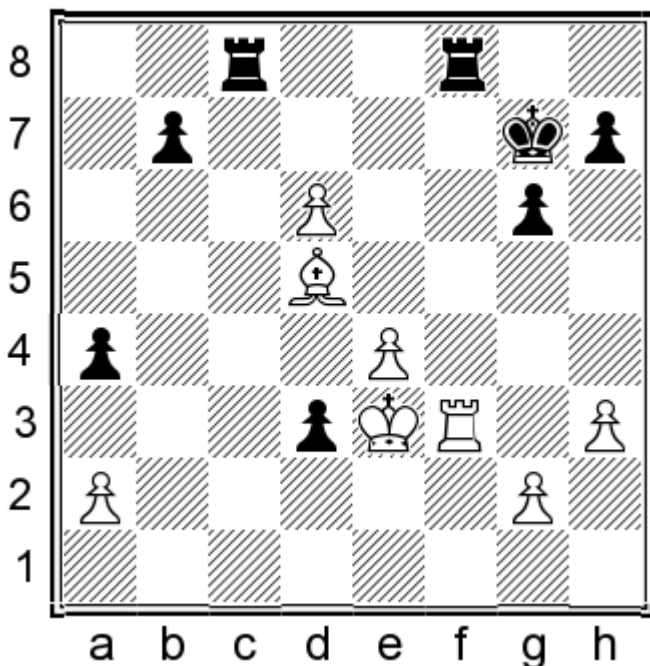
Black had to take exchange and after 26...Bxf7! 27.Rxf7 a4 28.Bd5 Black has two ways to reach position between a draw and win for Black (now easy to say - but long term suffering for White for sure!). 28...d3 (28...Kh8 the only way for White to stay in the game is to place his bishop on g4 (not an

"automatic decision") 29.d7 Rc7 30.Be6 Rc6 31.Bg4 Kg8 32.Re7 Kf8
 33.Rxh7 and now Black sends the white rook to awkward square 33...Rf6!
 34.e5 Rf7 35.Rh4 Kg7



White's rook is stuck, so Black wins White's e-pawn. Black is clearly better.

But, are the resulting positions easier for Black to win, or for White to draw is not easy to say. 36.e6 Re7 37.Bf3 Rxe6 38.Rxd4 b5) 29.Kf2 Rf8 30.Rf3+ Kg7 31.Ke3



Now Black provokes White's pawns, so the black king will control White's pawn liberating the black rook. 31...Rf6! 32.e5 Re8! 33.d7 Rxf3+ 34.gxf3 Rd8 35.e6 Kf6 36.Kxd3 Ke7 White's pawns are getting nowhere, while Black's rook is now "free to move". Again, Black is close to winning. Can White hold this position is not easy to say.

27.axb3 Now we have drawish rook endgame and all ends peacefully.

27...Rxd6 28.e5 Rb6 29.Rd7 Rf8 30.Ra2 Rxb3 31.Rxa5 Re3 32.Rb5 Re1+ 33.Kh2 Rf7 34.Rbxb7 Rxd7 35.Rxd7 Rxe5 36.Rxd4 Re7 37.Kg1 Kg7 38.Kh2 Rf7 39.Kg1 Re7 40.Kh2 Rf7 1/2-1/2



Aleksander Grischuk vs Ian Nepomniachtchi, Yekaterinburg 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

E05

Giri, Anish (2763) - Wang, Hao (2762)
Yekaterinburg (ct), 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 O-O 6.O-O dxc4 7.Qc2 a6 8.a4 Bd7 9.Qxc4 Bc6 10.Bf4 One of White's main lines in this position.

10.Bg5 is another (a bit more played) White's main line here.

10...Bd6

10...a5 immediately fixing queenside pawn structure is another way for Black.

11.Nc3 White does not mind to get double pawns (as he will get the g-file).

11.Qc1 or 11.Bg5 are options.

11...Bxf4 12.gxf4 a5 13.e3 Na6

13...Nbd7 is another idea for Black (keeping an option for inventive rook development) 14.Kh1 Ra6! 15.Rg1 Rb6 and Black was doing fine in Aronian,Levon 2767 - So,Wesley 2780, Saint Louis 2018

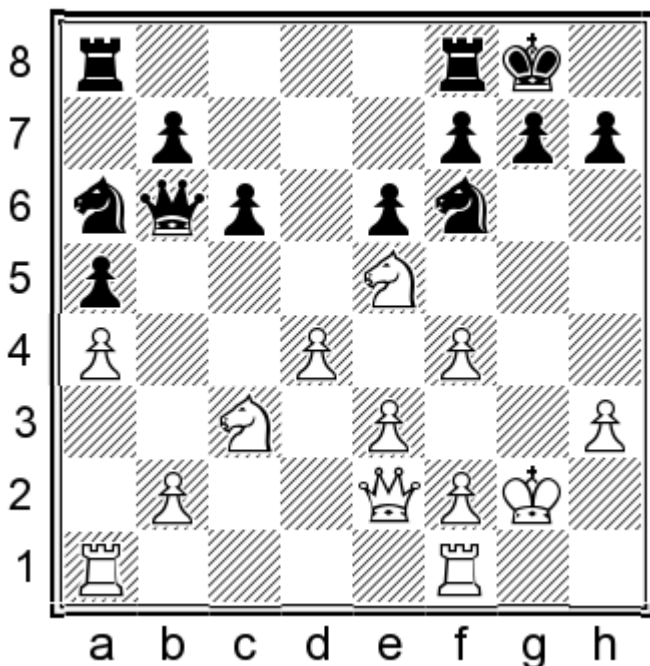
14.Ne5 Bxg2 15.Kxg2 c6 16.h3

It is not clear to me why not the immediate 16.Rg1

16...Qb6

16...Ne8!? with ... Nd6 and later ...f6 (kicking the white knight) to follow was option for Black to consider.

17.Qe2



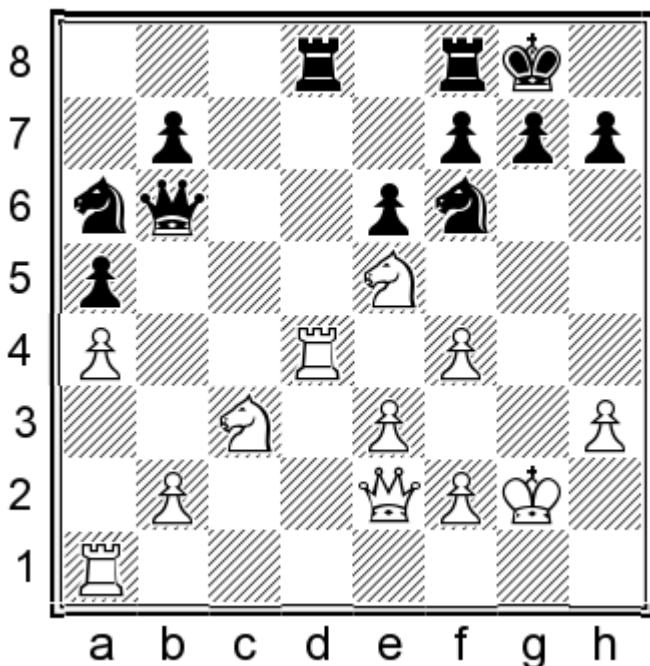
A typical Catalan position we get in similar lines. White has more space, while Black is very solid. Black is impatient to get 'direct counterplay' and opens up the centre at wrong moment.

17...c5? Black's queenside pawn will not be easier to target.

17...Rad8 keeping (for the time being anyhow) pawn structure the way it is (and perhaps pushing c5 at better moment) was the way for Black to proceed.

18.Rfd1 cxd4 19.Rxd4 Black now has problems protecting his queenside.

19...Rad8



20.Rxd8 Giri understands now that he has a clear advantage and wants to take the maximum out of the position.

20.Qb5! ± was winning a pawn by force (and was probably smart to do it).

20...Qxb5 21.axb5 Rxd4 22.exd4 Nc7 23.Rxa5 - double pawn, but an extra pawn, White is having excellent winning chances.

20...Qxd8

20...Rxd8 is not good for Black as after 21.Qb5! Qc7 22.Rc1 ± Black will lose one of his queenside pawns. 22...Nc5 23.Nc4 Nd3 24.Rd1

21.Rd1 Qa8 22.Kg1 Nb4 23.Qb5 Nbd5 24.Nxd5 Nxd5 25.Rc1 h6 26.Qd7 Nf6?

26...Nb6 was a better defence (Black needs to have ...f6 move option), as after 27.Qd6 Qd8! (27...Nxa4?? 28.b3) 28.Qxd8 Rxd8 29.Rc7 f6 = Black holds.

27.Qd6 g6

27...Qe8 was perhaps Black's best choice, but position remains difficult (for Black) after 28.b3 b5 29.Qc6;

27...Nd5 Black (for a good reason) did not like it because of 28.f5 ±

28.b3 h5 29.Kh2 Kg7 30.Qd4 Not a bad move, but with a wrong plan in mind.

30.Qb6 preparing Rc5 or Rc7 (depending what Black does) was leading to large (winning) advantage. 30...Kg8 (30...Nd5 loses (by force) to 31.Qd4 Kh7 32.e4 Nxf4 33.Nd7 Ne2 34.Nf6+ Kh8 35.Qe3 and game is soon over: 35...Kg7 36.Nxh5+ gxh5 37.Qg5+ Kh7 38.Qxh5+ Kg7 39.Qg4+ Kf6 40.e5+! Most precise! (40.Qxe2 Qb8+±) 40...Kxe5 41.Qxe2+ Kf6 42.Qf3+ + - etc.) 31.Rc5 Ne4 32.Rc7 and Black is forced into lost endgame 32...Qa6 33.Qxa6 bxa6 34.Kg2 + -

30...Rd8 31.Qb2 Qb8 Critical moment.

31...Rc8 does not help due to 32.Rc4! Rxc4 33.bxc4 Qc8 34.Qb6 and White gets a winning queen endgame.

32.b4?! White correctly understands that Black's 7th rank weakness is decisive, but does not execute in precise manner.

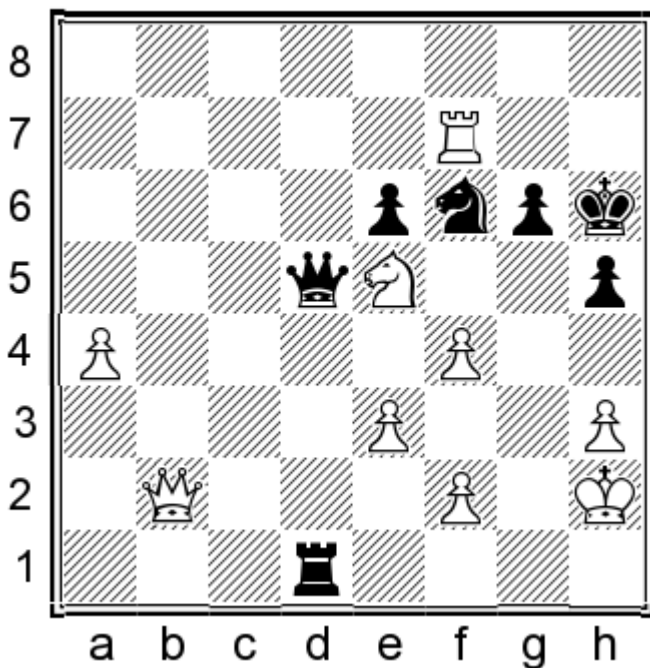
32.Qc3! + - was either winning a pawn or decisively penetrating the 7th rank. 32...Nd5 (32...Rd5 33.Qc7) 33.Qxa5

32...axb4 33.Rc4

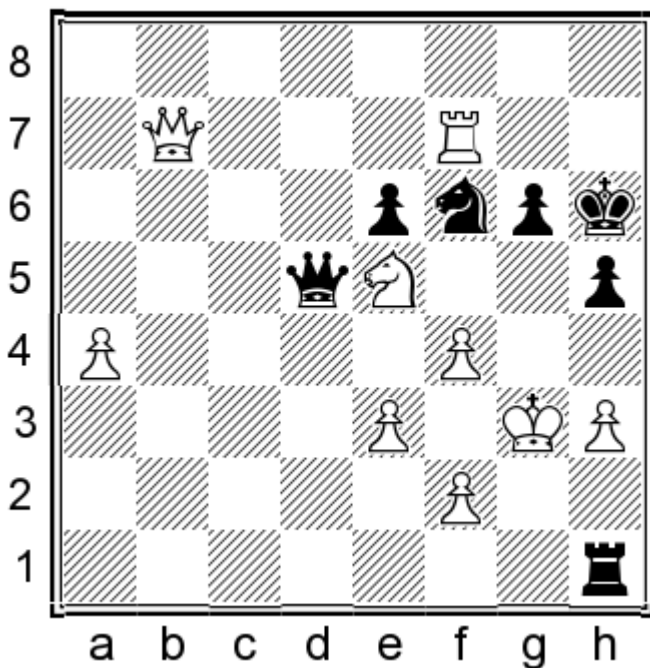
33.Qxb4 ± was keeping advantage.

33...b3?

Black could have saved the game with 33...Rd1! White's weak king position enables Black to save the game! 34.Rxb4 (34.Qxb4 Qd8! 35.Qxb7 Ng4+ 36.Nxg4 hxg4 =) 34...Qd8! 35.Rxb7 Qd5 36.Rxf7+ Kh6



37.Kg3! Best practical chance for White. Now Black needs the last precise move (37.Rxf6 Black draws with perpetual check 37...Rh1+ 38.Kg3 Rxf6+ 39.Kxf6 Qh1+ 40.Kg3 h4+! 41.Kg4 Qg2+=) 37...Rh1! (threat is 38...Rh3) (37...Rg1+? loses to 38.Kh4 Rh1 39.Qb7 +-) 38.Qb7



38...Rg1+! - and draw has been secured! 39.Kh2 (It is never too late to blunder into mating net 39.Kh4?? Qxe5- +) 39...Rh1+ =

34.Rb4 + - Now White penetrates the 7th rank and the game is over.

34...Qa7 35.Rxb3 Qxa4 36.Rxb7 Qe8 37.Ra7 Rd5 38.Qb7 Ne4 39.Nxf7 1-0



Anish Giri vs Wang Hao, Yekaterinburg 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

Kirill Alekseenko came well prepared for the Candidates, but in this game something went wrong. He went for the opening line with not such a good reputation and Nepomniachtchi scored easy "textbook Catalan type win".

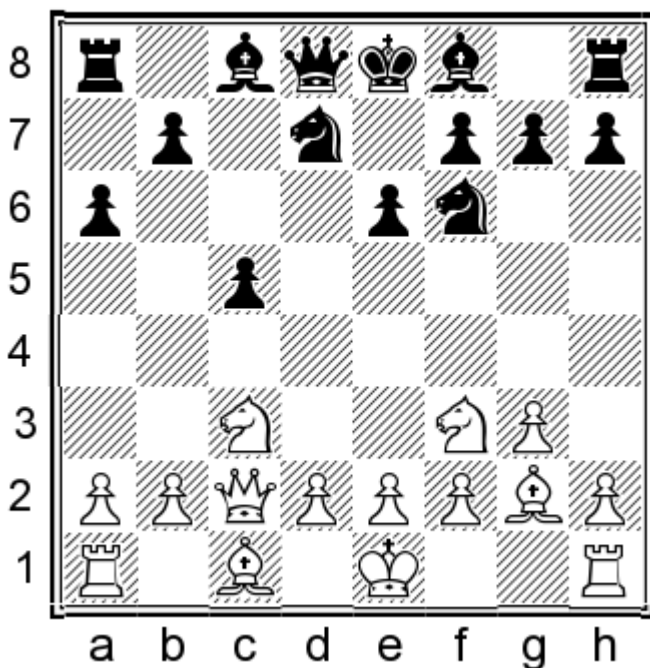
1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 e6 3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.Qa4+ Nbd7

5...c6 is another Black's main move here.

6.Qxc4 a6

6...c5 has been played by strong players too.

7.Qc2 c5 8.Nc3



8...Be7? This opening line does not have a good reputation for Black and this game will not make it better.

8...Qc7 aiming for a quick 9...b6 (or even 9...b5) development has been played by many strong players. White has small, though rather pleasant (usually "two results play") advantage.

9.O-O O-O 10.d4± cxd4 Now Black will have terrible problems to develop. White already has sizeable advantage.

10...b5!? looks good for White after 11.Ng5 Ra7 12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.Bf4 h6

14.Nge4 but is perhaps a lesser evil for Black (compared to the game).

11.Nxd4 Qc7 Black's main problem here is that (while Black has terrible development problems) White does not need any 'genious moves' to build on his advantage. Regular, logical moves do the job (for White) here.

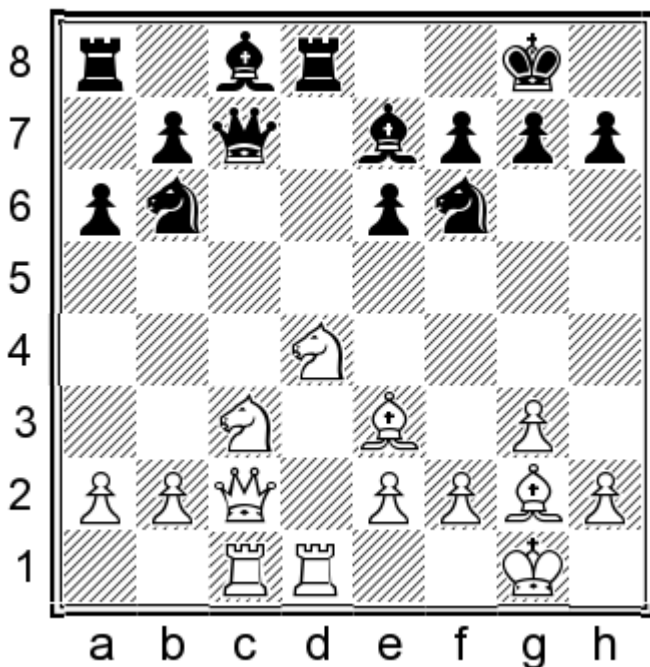
12.Rd1

More direct 12.Bf4 e5 13.Nf5 ± looks good for White too.

12...Rd8

In case of 12...Nb6 13.Be3 Black does not get to finish his development in a suitable way, e.g. 13...Ng4 (13...Nc4 14.Ne4 +-) 14.Bd2 Rd8 15.Be1 White's next move is simple 16. Rac1, while Black does not have a good way to continue. 15...Bd7 16.Qe4 +- e5 17.Nf5 Bxf5 18.Qxf5 Nf6 19.Ne4 +- - and Black starts losing material

13.Be3 Nb6 14.Rac1 +-

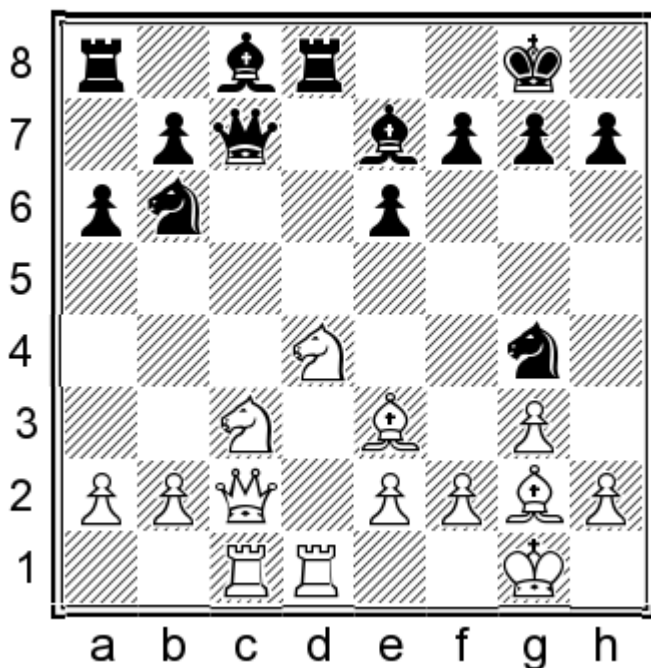


Bad choice of opening variation in its most clear display! Both sides have played seemingly logical moves. We are at very early stage of the game, White is harmoniously developed, while Black already cannot prevent material losses!

14...e5

Black's position is bad and is not easy to choose "the lesser evil". In case of

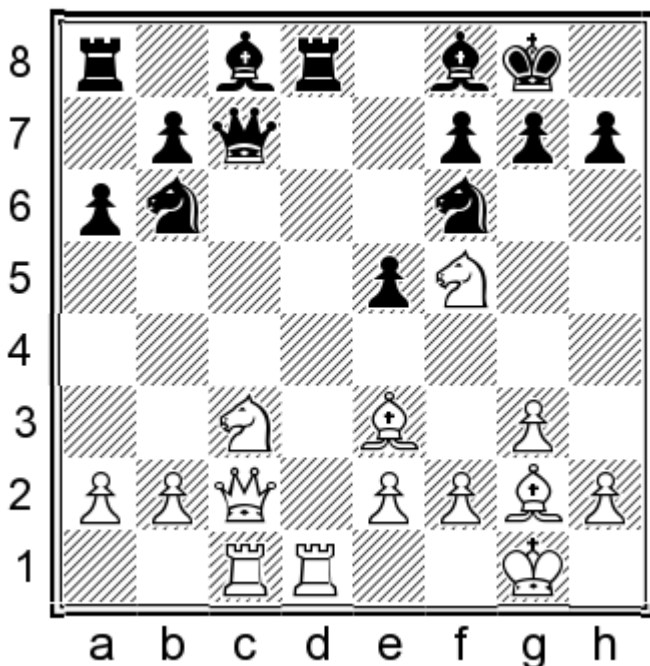
14...Ng4



15.Qb3! Nxe3 16.fxe3 Black has to give his queen (which is perhaps not the biggest problem, but still has problems to develop!). 16...Qc5 17.Na4 Nxa4 18.Rxc5 Nxc5 19.Qb6 and White has a large advantage.

15.Nf5 Bxf5

15...Bf8



Loses to tactical 16.Nxg7! Kxg7 (16...Bxg7 17.Ne4 +-) 17.Qb3 Nc4 18.Rxd8 Nxe3 19.Rxf8 Kxf8 20.fxe3 Qc5 21.Rf1 +-

16.Qxf5 Nc4 17.Bg5 Rxd1+ 18.Nxd1 Rd8

18...Qd8 is perhaps better then the game, though after the simple 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Bxb7 Nd6 21.Qf3 Rb8 22.Bd5 White is up a pawn and has great position (on the top of it).

19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Be4 Qa5 White has winning advantage and different ways to execute. Nepo brings it home with a steady hand.

21.Nc3 Kf8 22.Nd5 b5 23.Qxh7 Rxd5 24.Bxd5 Qd2 25.Rxc4 bxc4 26.e4

Supporting the strong bishop and killing any Black's potential counterplay is definitely the most "human choice" here.

26.Qh8+ Ke7 27.Qa8 Qxb2 28.Qxa6 c3 29.Qc8 is my computer's choice.

26...Qxb2 27.Qh8+ Ke7 28.Qc8 Qb6 29.Qxc4 Qb5

29...Kf8 does not help as bishop ending after 30.Bxf7 Qb5 31.Kg2 Qxc4 32.Bxc4 a5 33.Kh3 is easily won for White.

30.Qc7+ Qd7 31.Qc5+ 1-0



Ian Nepomniachtchi vs Kirill Alekseenko, Yekaterinburg 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

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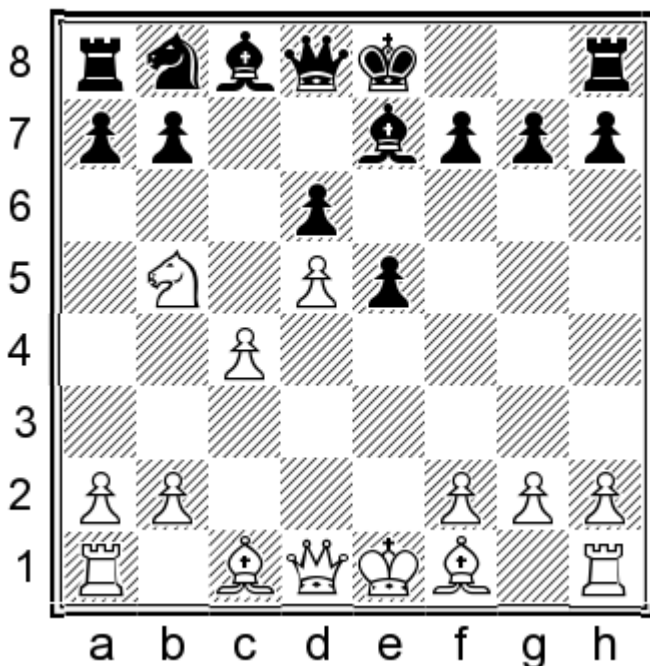
Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2767) - Giri, Anish (2763)
Yekaterinburg (ct), 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 This move became popular after the Caruana - Carlsen World Championship match.

7...Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8

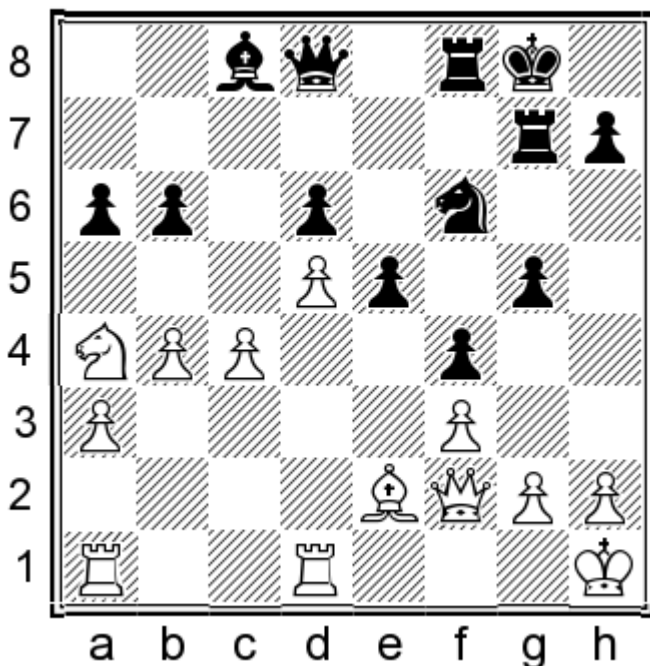
8...Ne7 is another main move (often played by Magnus).

9.c4 Be7



If Black wants to avoid the 10.c5 line (from this game), he can play 9...a6 10.Nc3 Be7 where after 11.Be2 (11.Be3 O-O 12.Qd2 f5 13.f3 is different set-up for White (definitely worth giving it a try).) 11...O-O 12.O-O we have some top games, White is probably a bit better.

Another Black's option to avoid the 10.c5 line is 9...Nd7, almost not played at all at high level. I found (I assume rapid) game of Ivanchuk's. 10.Be2 Be7 11.O-O O-O 12.Kh1 f5 13.f3 a6 14.Nc3 Bg5 15.b4 b6 (15...a5 16.a3²) 16.a3 White has the queenside initiative, while it takes Black some time to develop kingside action of his own. 16...Ra7 17.Bxg5 Qxg5 18.Qc1 Qd8 19.Qe3 f4 20.Qf2 Nf6 White is better, but Chuki loses time for no reason. 21.Rfd1? (White had different (promising) ways to start immediate action 21.c5!?: 21.a4!f; or 21.Na4 Rb7 22.c5) 21...g5! now Black is quick! 22.Na4 Rg7!

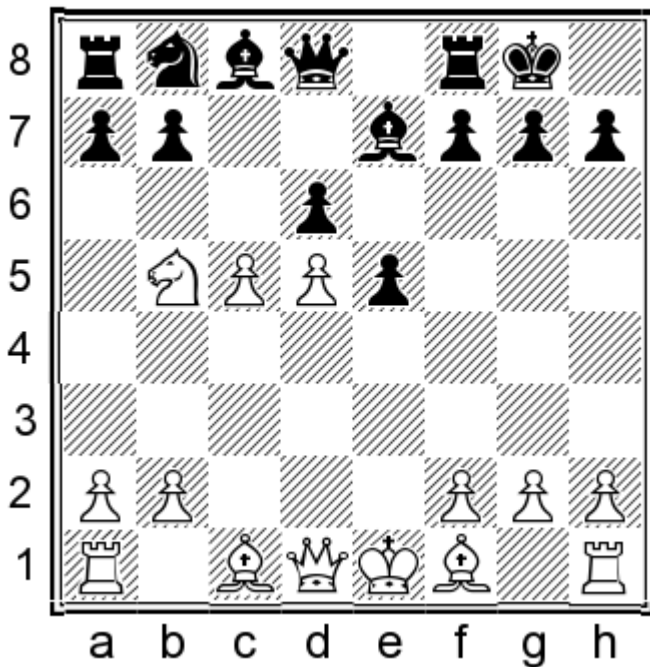


23.Nxb6? (23.Qxb6 was needed, and after 23...Qe8 24.Qxd6! Qxa4 25.Qxe5 my engine gives zeros, but from a human perspective it looks promising for Black after both 25...Qc2 (or 25...g4)) 23...Bf5- + 24.Bd3 Bxd3 25.Rxd3 g4 White's knight is stranded on b6, while Black has crushing attack. Black went on to win in Ivanchuk,Vassily 2738 - Piorun,Kacper 2638, Matanzas 2017

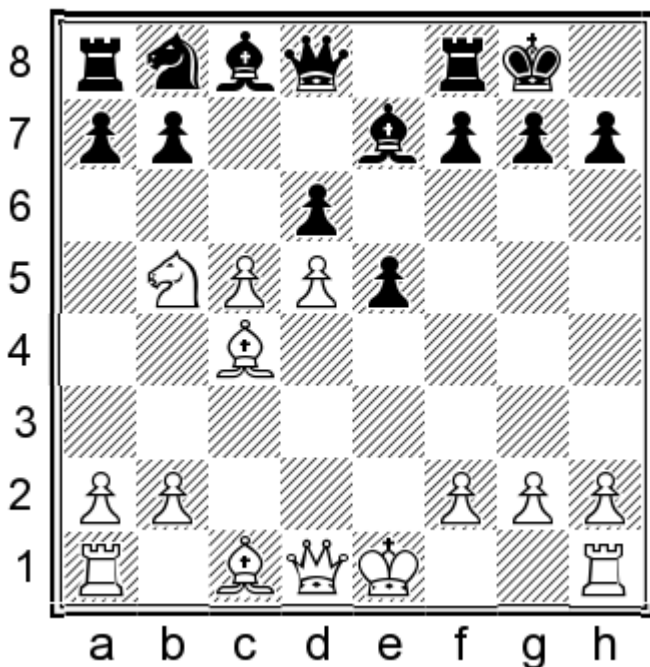
10.c5!? Almost a novelty! After this game we are going to see a lot more of this move. I have tried to give some theoretical guidelines (which should hopefully help reader to employ this line in his/her games).

10...Na6

10...O-O

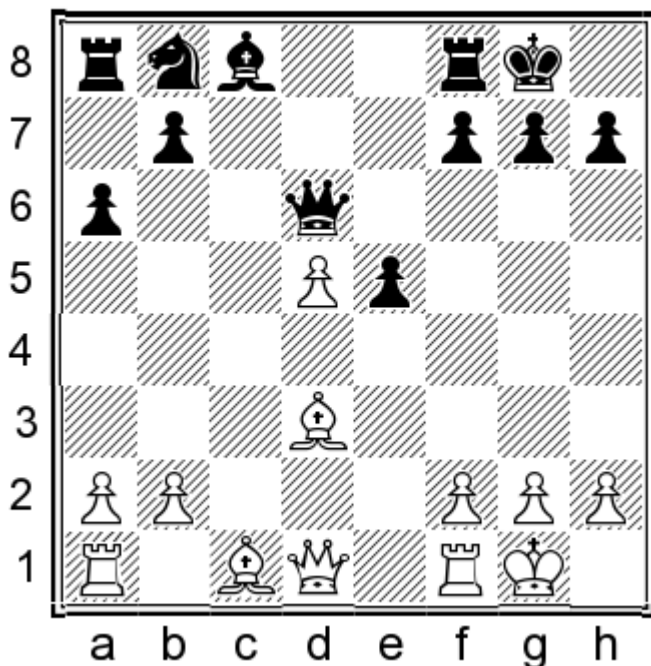


castling and "not touching anything" has been played in a few GM games.
Most logical for White is to develop his Bf1. But, where to? 11.Bd3! (11.Bc4

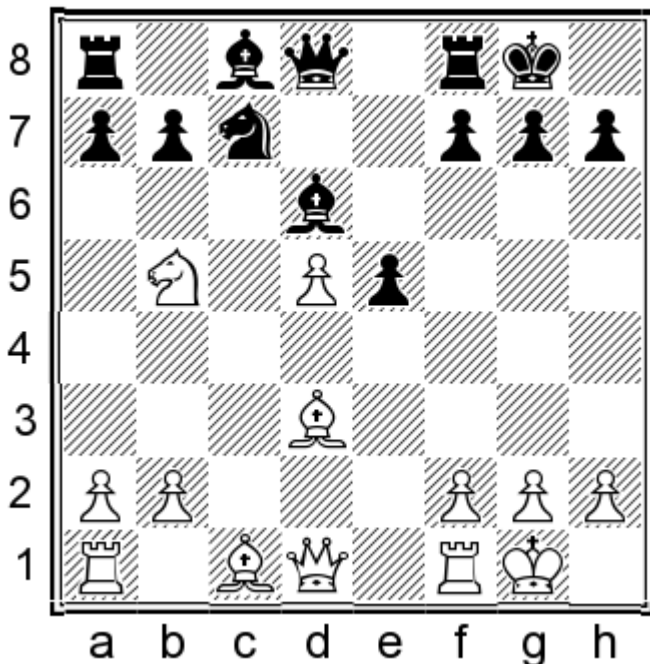


This has its drawback 11...Bd7! being strong for Black as 12.Nxd6??

blunders a piece to (12.cxd6 Bxb5 is (as minimum) OK for Black. 13.dxe7 (13.Bxb5 Bxd6) 13...Qxe7) 12...Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Qxc5-+; 11.Be2 does not bring White opening advantage after 11...Na6 12.cxd6 Bxd6 13.O-O Nc7 14.Nxc7 (14.Bg5 now does not produce the desired result due to 14...Qxg5 (14...f6 is also good for Black.) 15.Nxd6 Bh3 16.Bf3 Qg6=) 14...Qxc7 15.Be3 f5 and if somebody is better here, it is not White, Feygin,Michael 2515 - Niebergall,Gerhard 2115, Sankt Ingbert 1998) 11...Na6 (11...a6 has been seen in a top level internet game. White should get some opening advantage with 12.Nxd6 Bxd6 13.cxd6 Qxd6 14.O-O

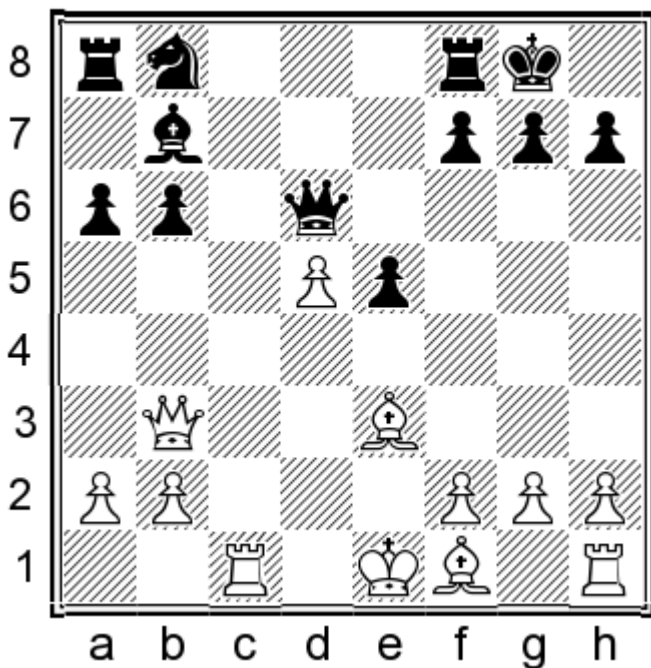


14...Nd7 (Black is not really ready to take space with 14...f5?! as White can sacrifice his d5-pawn and will have more than "just a compensation" after 15.b3! Kh8 16.Bb2 (or 16.a4 Qxd5 17.Ba3 Re8 18.Bc4f) 16...Qxd5 17.Bc4 Qc5 18.Bd5f) 15.a4! is probably improvement on White's play. (15.Qc2 Nf6 16.Rd1 Bg4 17.f3 Rac8 18.Qb3 Bh5 ∞ with unclear game, as in Cheparinov,Ivan 2670 - Moiseenko,Alexander 2635, chess24.com (Internet-m/1-blitz) 2020) 15...Nf6 (15...Nb6 does not look good, as Black cannot comfortably take on d5. 16.Qh5 h6 17.Rd1f) 16.Bc4 Rd8 17.Bg5²) 12.cxd6 Bxd6 13.O-O Nc7

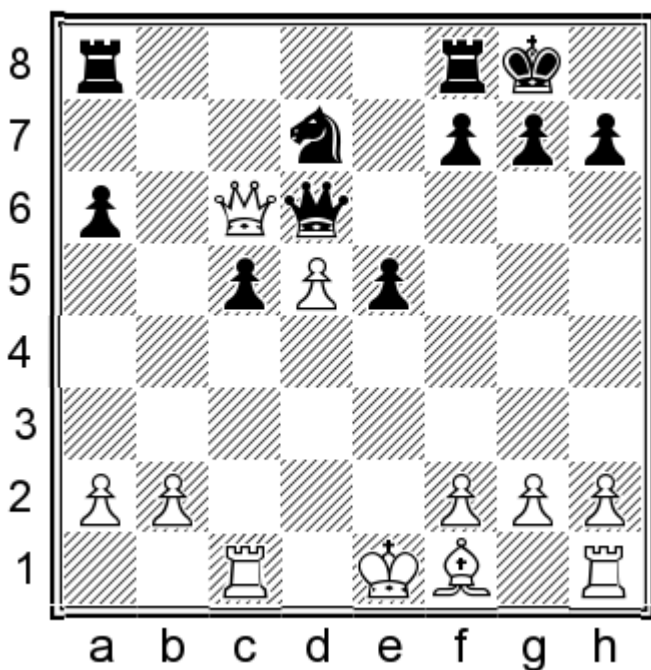


Now we see the reason why 11.Bd3! was strong! 14.Bg5! Qxg5 (14...f6?? loses to 15.Qh5 + -; 14...Qd7? is bad for Black after simple 15.Qh5) 15.Nxd6 White has a clear advantage 15...Ne8 16.Nc4 b5 17.Na5 Nd6 18.Qc1 ± Warmerdam,Max 2475 - Tari,Aryan 2623, Teplice 2019

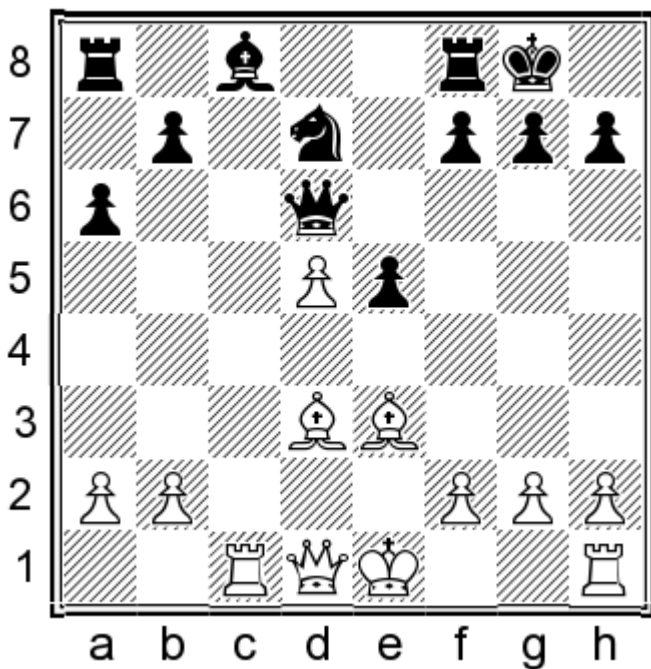
10...a6 does not seem to equalise for Black either: 11.cxd6 Bxd6 12.Nxd6+ Qxd6 13.Be3 (Best for White is probably 13.Be2 O-O 14.O-O Nd7 15.Qb3! if Black does not take the pawn he is a bit worse. If Black takes the pawn he is really asking for trouble. 15...Nc5 16.Qa3 Qxd5 17.Rd1 Qc6 18.Be3 Ne6 19.Rac1f) 13...O-O 14.Rc1 Here Black's play can be improved on with 14...Nd7 (14...b6?! 15.Qb3! Bb7



16.Qxb6! White has a clear advantage in the ensuing ending. (16.Bc5 does not bring White the desired, as Black has a piece sacrifice after 16...bxc5 17.Qxb7 Nd7 18.Qc6



18...Qb8! 19.Qxd7 Qxb2 = with equality 20.Rd1 Qb4+ 21.Rd2 Rfd8 22.Qc6 Qb1+ 23.Rd1 Qb4+ 24.Rd2 = Messing,Hrvoje 2420 - Bjelajac,Milan 2410, Jugoslavija (ch) 1979) 16...Qxb6 (16...Qxd5 17.Rd1 ± Qc6 18.Rd6) 17.Bxb6 ±) 15.Bd3



And now Black has interesting exchange sacrifice: 15...Nf6!? 16.Bc5 Qxd5 17.Bxh7+ Kxh7 18.Qxd5 Nxd5 19.Bxf8 Be6 20.Bd6 Nf4©

11.cxd6 Bxd6 12.Bc4 O-O 13.O-O Nc7 14.Nxd6 Qxd6 White should be better, but need an improvement either now or on the move 17th (as 17...f6!) seems to be equalising for Black.

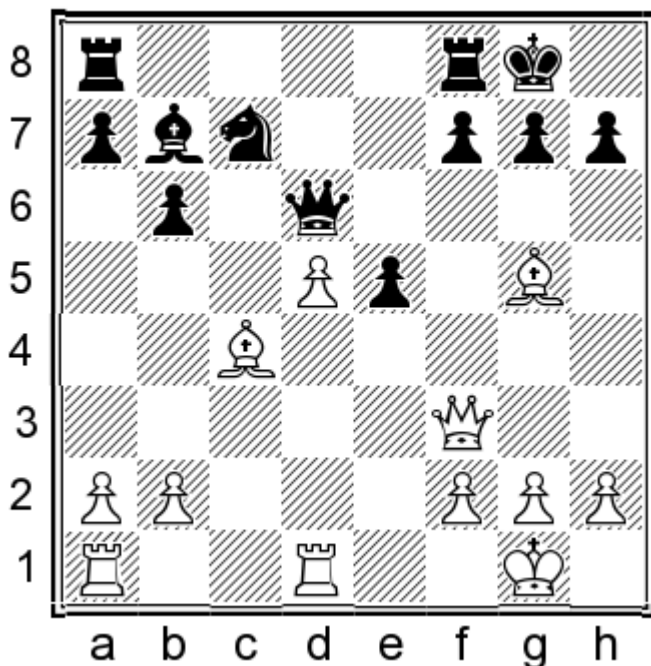
15.Qf3

15.Qd3 is perhaps White's best. 15...b6 16.Rd1 Bb7 17.Bg5 f6 18.Be3² Rad8 19.Rd2;

15.a4 Rd8 16.Qf3 is interesting, but probably leads to a drawish ending. 16...Nxd5! 17.Bg5 f6 18.Bxd5+ Qxd5 19.Rad1 Qa5 20.Qc3 (20.Bxf6 leads to a draw by perpetual check: 20...gxf6 21.Qc3 Rd5 22.Qg3+ Kf8 (22...Kf7? 23.Qb3) 23.Qf3 Be6 24.Qxf6+ Bf7 25.Qh8+ Bg8 26.Qf6+ Bf7 =) 20...Rd5 21.Qxa5 Rxa5 22.Rd8+ Kf7 23.Be3 Ra6 and a draw is the most likely result. 24.Rc1 Rc6 25.Rxc6 bxc6 26.a5 a6 27.Bc5 Kg6 28.f3 Bb7 29.Rd7 Bc8; 15.Bd2

15...b6 16.Rd1 Bb7 17.Bg5

17.b4 can be an improvement for White. 17...Rfd8 18.Bb2 f6 (18...Nxd5 19.h3 Rd7 20.Qe4 looks better for White.) 19.b5 White should be better here (not easy to say how much). (19.Rac1 Kh8 20.Bb3 looks promising, but leads to a drawish endgame: 20...Nxd5! 21.Rd2 Nf4 22.Rxd6 Bxf3 23.Rxd8+ Rxd8 24.gxf3 Ne2+ 25.Kf1 Nxc1 26.Bxc1 Rd4=)



17...h6?!

Much better was 17...f6! 18.Be3 Rad8 with an unclear play - 19.Rd2 Rd7 ∞ 20.Rad1 (20.g4!?) 20...f5

18.Bh4 b5 19.Bb3 Na6 White is better here and has various promising ways. Vachier-Lagrave goes for a pawn win.

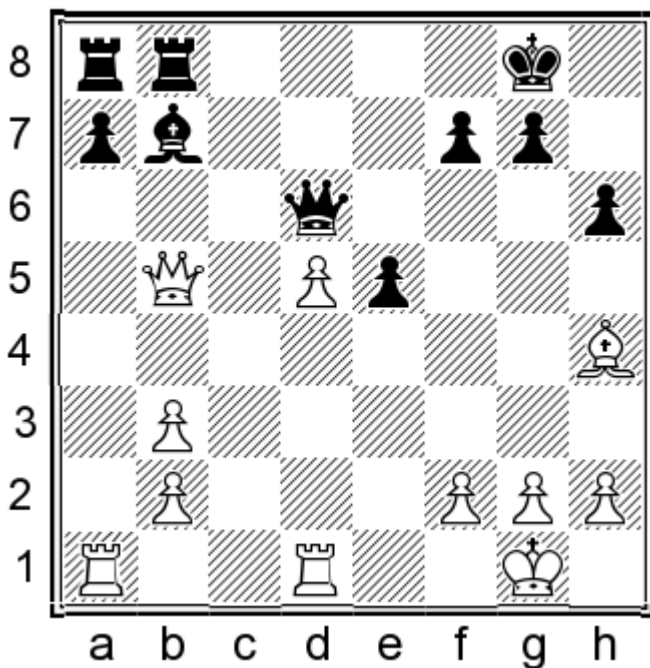
20.Qe2

Also good was 20.Qe3 ± Nc5 21.Bc2 Rac8 22.Rd2

20...Nc5 21.Qxb5 Nxb3 22.axb3

22.Qxb3 looks good: 22...Rab8 23.Qe3 ±

22...Rfb8

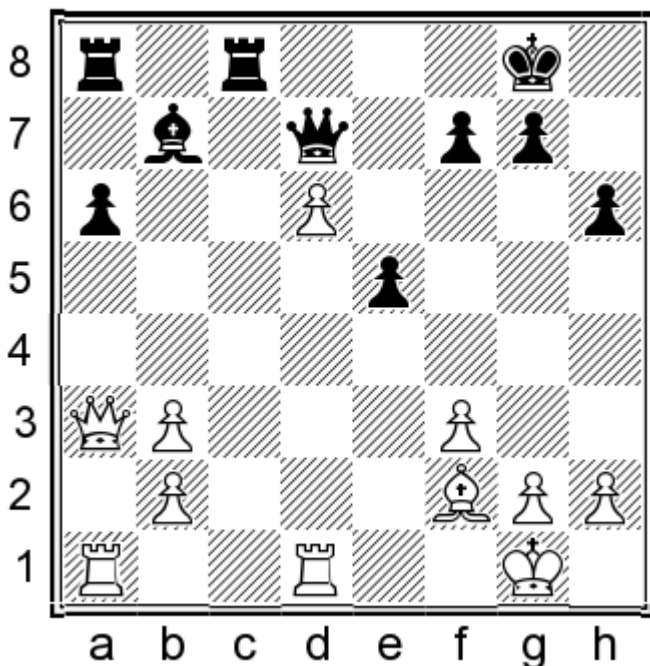


White is a sound pawn up. The opposite-colour bishops (naturally) give Black (reasonable) drawing chances, but White is clearly better (and has different ways to keep his advantage).

23.f3

23.Rac1 ± f6 (23...a6 24.Qa5 Rc8 25.Rc4) 24.f3 a6 25.Qa5

23...a6 24.Qa5 Rc8 25.Qa3 Qb6+ 26.Bf2 Qb5 27.d6 Qd7



Now White gets an idea to transfer his queen to h4 square (which will not work out well).

28.Qa4

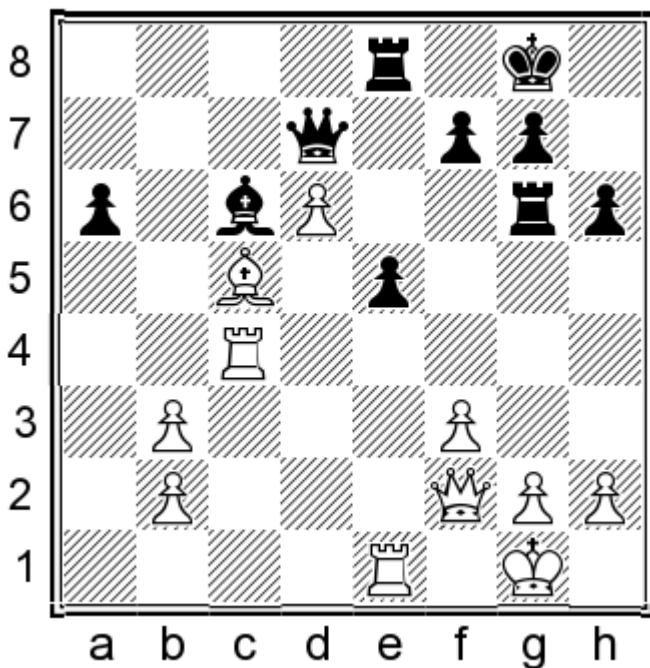
28.Rd2! ± e4 (28...Re8 29.Rc1) 29.fxe4 Bxe4 30.Re1 Qg4 31.Bg3

28...Bc6 29.Qh4 Re8! Black prepares his counterplay.

30.Rac1 Rac8 31.Rc4?! A bit unfortunate square (as White's queen now cannot move to the queenside).

31.h3; 31.Rc3

31...Re6 32.Bc5 Rg6 33.Qf2 Re8 34.Re1



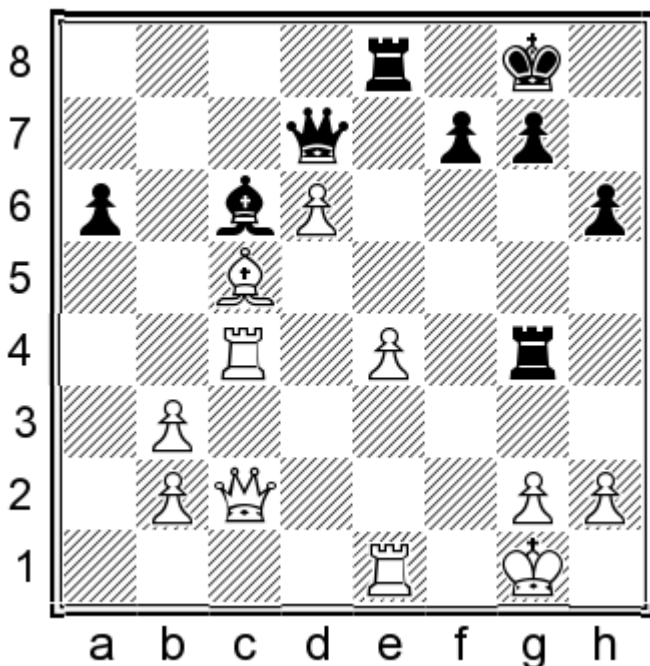
34...e4! Black got his counterplay and the position is equal, but something strange is now going to happen!

35.fxe4 Rg4?

35...f5 = collects the pawn on e4 (on next move) and a draw is almost inevitable.

36.h3?

It is difficult (for me) to explain why Vachier-Lagrave refused to protect his pawn! 36.Qc2!



Protect the e4-pawn and White is clearly better. Black probably has to play 36...Bb5 and after (36...Qb7? loses to 37.Bf2 Bxe4 38.Rexe4 Rxe4 39.Rxe4 Rxe4 40.d7 + -; while 36...f5? loses to 37.Bb4 + -) 37.Rd4 ± Black has good (light squares) blockade, but White is (clearly) better.

36...Rgx4 = 37.Rexe4 Rxe4 38.Rxe4 Bxe4 39.Qe2 Bb7 40.b4 Qc6 1/2-1/2



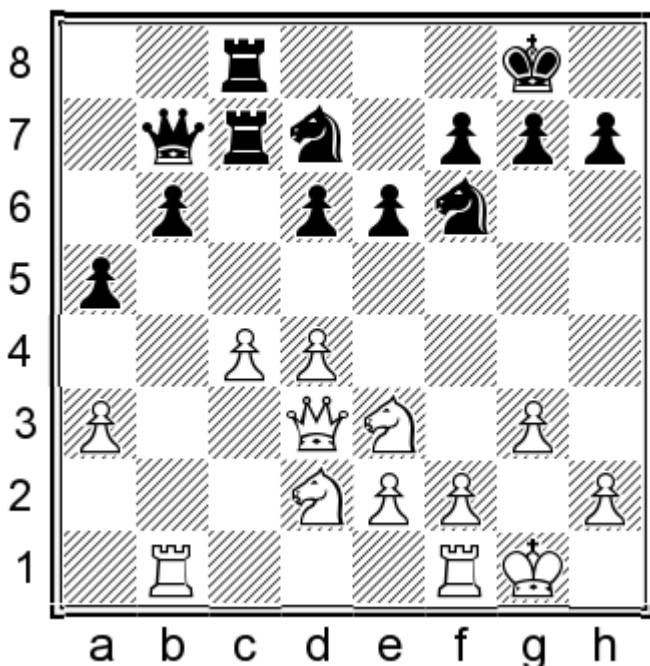
Maxime Vachier-Lagrave vs Anish Giri, Yekaterinburg 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 c5 I was a bit surprised by Anish's opening choice. Yes, this is a solid line for Black, but also the opening line usually not offering much winning chances. I expected Anish to go for something a bit more double-edged.

7.Bxb4 cxb4 8.O-O O-O 9.Nbd2 d6 10.Qb3 a5 11.a3 Standard plan for White in this line. White wants Black to take on a3 and after White recaptures ba3, he will have pressure on Black's b6 pawn.

11...Na6 This is a standard knight's development in this line and is (of course) difficult to criticise this move. However, Black will experience problems defending his b6-pawn and perhaps was a better decision to develop the knight to d7-square protecting the b6-weakness.

11...bxa3 12.bxa3 Nbd7 was definitely something for Black to consider, as b6-pawn is now well defended. Most logical for White looks to follow on Grischuk's game plan. 13.Ne1 Qc7 14.Bxb7 (Keeping the bishops 14.e4 e5 does not seem to offer White any advantage.) 14...Qxb7 15.Nc2 Rac8 16.Ne3 Rc7 17.Rab1 White wants to utilise the b-file, but Black's b-pawn is now well protected. 17...Rfc8 18.Qd3

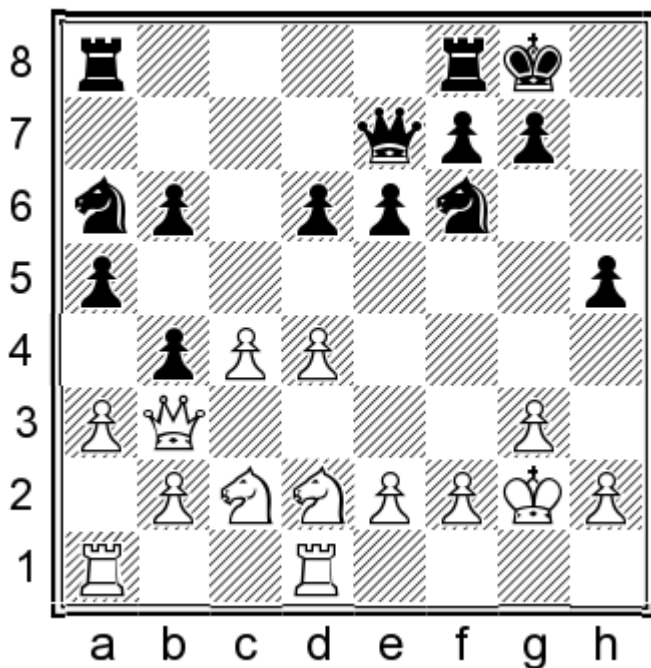


18...d5! 19.Rb5 g6 20.Rfb1 Qa8 - position is about equal, as both sides cannot make progress.

12.Rfd1 Grischuk prepares his knight transfer to c2 in order to force Black b3 capture and open the b-file.

12.Nh4 Bxg2 13.Nxg2 e5 14.Nf3 Re8 was (very close to) equal, the game was later drawn in Karjakin,Sergey 2785 - Akopian,Vladimir 2687, Istanbul (ol) 2012. Grischuk's plan is much more to the point.

12...Qe7 13.Ne1 Bxg2 14.Kxg2 h5 15.Nc2



The first part of the plan accomplished. Black is forced to capture b3 and White gets pressure on the b-file.

15...bxa3 16.bxa3 Rab8 17.e4 Grischuk takes space (probably most logical - anyhow the most straight forward).

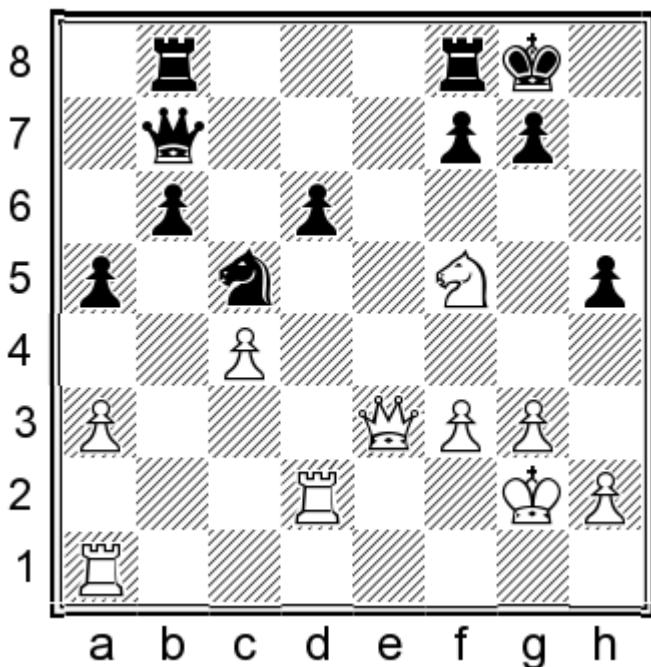
17.Ne3² with Nf3 to follow.

17...e5 18.Qd3 Black now gets tactical (equalising) possibility.

18.f3² protecting the e4-pawn was leading to White's advantage. White has more space, Black has the b6-weakness to worry about and no real counterplay.

18...Nc7 Black makes a "usefull move", but could have equalised with "direct play".

18...exd4! seems to lead to equality (as both sides have some weak pawns to worry about). 19.Nxd4 (In case of 19.f3 Nc5 20.Qxd4 b5 = we have dynamically balanced position.) 19...Nc5 20.Nf5 Qb7 21.Qe3 It could well be that Giri did not like this position. White does have the Qg5 threat, the pawn on d6 hangs, but with a few accurate moves Black equalises. 21...Nfxe4! (21...Ncxe4? 22.f3 Nxd2 23.Rxd2 ± (24.Qg5 is a terrible threat!)) 22.f3 Nxd2 23.Rxd2



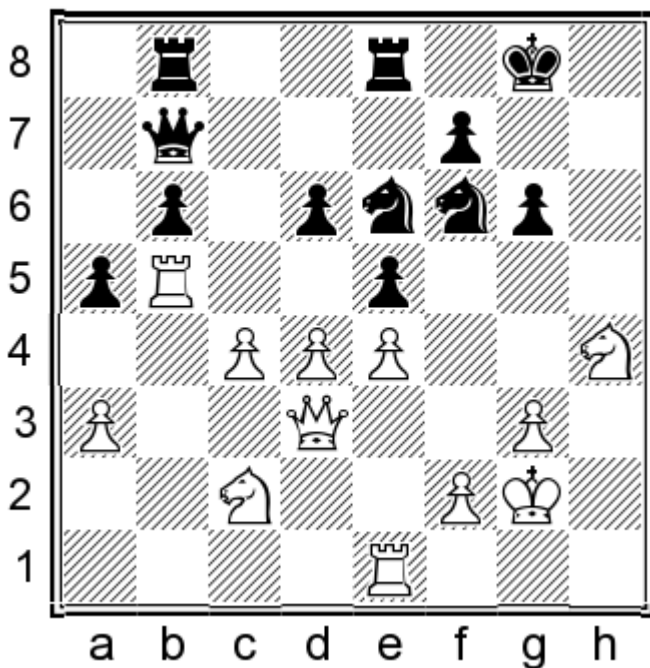
23...Rfe8! (23...Ne6 24.Rad1 ±) 24.Qc3 (24.Qg5 g6 25.Nxd6 Qe7 =) 24...Re5 25.Rd5 and we may get entertaining draw by perpetual check. 25...Rbe8 26.Nxd6 Rxd5 27.Nxb7 Re2+ 28.Kf1 Rdd2 =

19.Rab1

19.Ne3 was interesting option as after 19...Ne6 White can transform the central pawn structure having some advantage. 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.Nd5 Nxd5 22.cxd5²

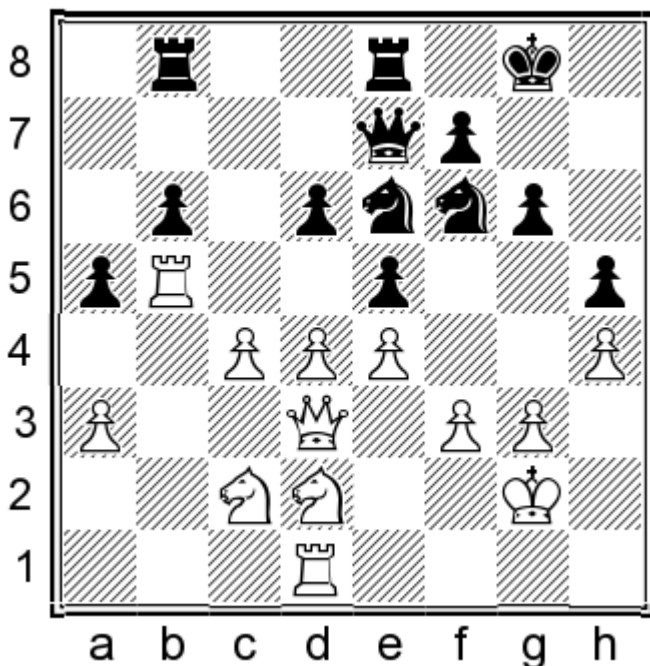
19...Ne6 20.Rb5 Rfe8

20...h4 is not creating any counterplay as after 21.Nf3 Qb7 22.Re1 hxg3 23.hxg3 Rfe8 24.Nh4 Black needs to worry about his own king, e.g. 24...g6



25.d5! Nc5 26.Qe3 Nfxe4 27.Qh6 Nxf2 28.Ne3! Qe7 29.Nhf5 Qf6 (29...Qf8 30.Qh4) 30.Rb2! Ncd3 (30...Nfd3 31.Rh1) 31.Rxf2 Nxf2 32.Kxf2 e4 33.Kg1 Re5 34.g4 +- (Or 34.Rf1 +-)

21.h4 g6 22.f3



The most logical. White supports his strong centre (releasing his Nd2 from e4-pawn defending duties).

My computer engine suggests pawn structure change 22.dxe5 dxe5 23.Ne3 Nd4 24.Nd5 Nxd5 25.Rxd5 with f4 to follow, and gives some plus to White, but it does not look clear to me.

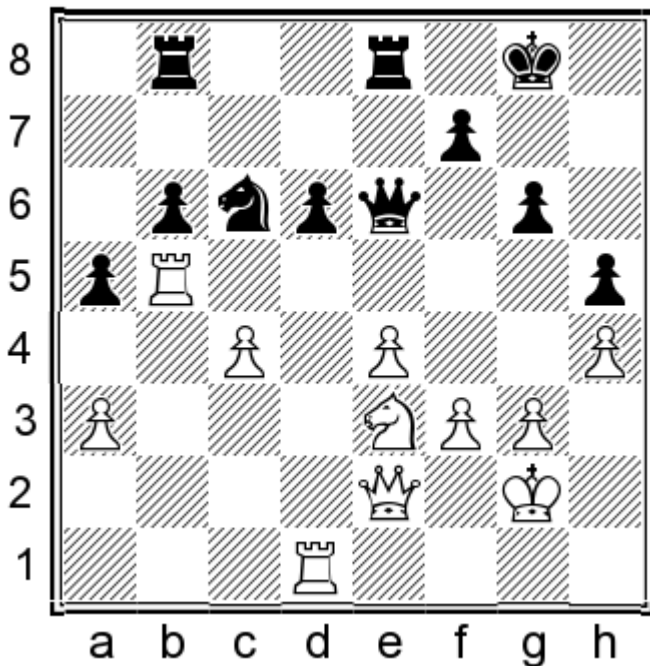
22...Nd7?! This is in a higher sense a losing mistake. White will improve his position, while Black will not get "second chance" for counterplay.

Black's best was 22...Rec8! White now does not have "free hands" to regroup 23.Nf1 (23.Rdb1 Nd7 24.Nf1?? is now a blunder. 24...exd4 25.Nxd4 Ne5- +) 23...Nc7 24.Rbb1 b5,,

23.Nf1! exd4 24.Nxd4 Ne5

24...Nxd4 is passive, but better than the game continuation 25.Qxd4 Rbc8 26.Ne3 Rc6 ±

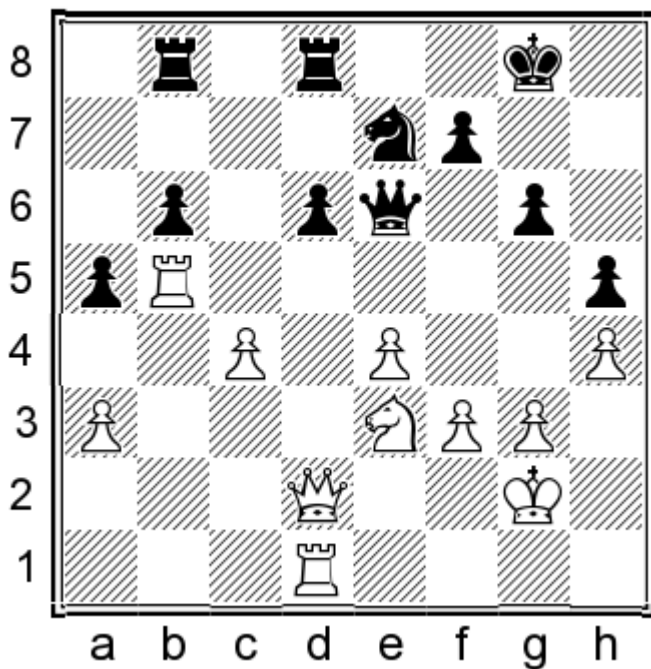
25.Qe2 Nxd4 26.Rxd4 Nc6 27.Rd1 Qe6 28.Ne3 + -



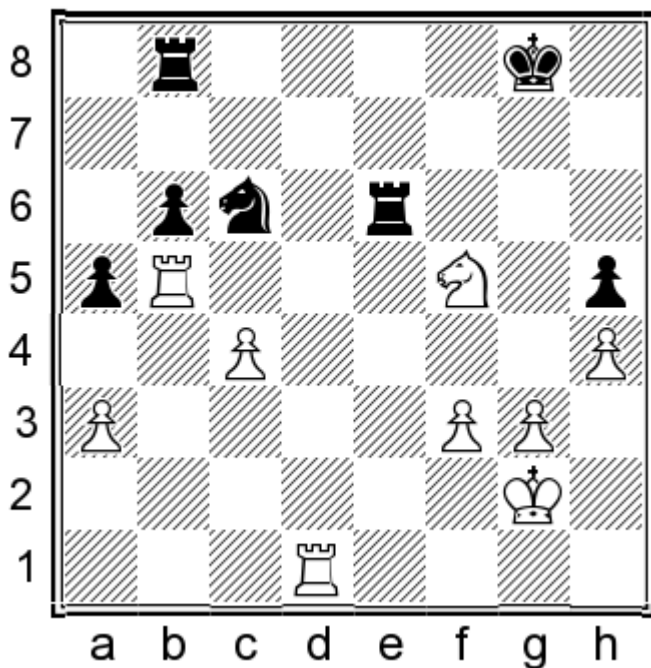
A Typical position in this line. Black is strategically lost. White has more space, while Black has weak pawns he cannot protect. Giri stages desperate counterplay attempt, but now is too late.

28...Ne7 29.Qd2 f5? The position was bad, but this just loses two pawns for nothing.

In case of 29...Red8 probably the best execution is a direct attack on the black king



30.g4! hxg4 (30...Nc6 31.gxh5 Ne5 32.hxg6 Qxg6+ 33.Ng4 +-) 31.Nxg4 +-
 30.Qxd6 Nc6 31.exf5 gxf5 32.Qxe6+ Rxe6 33.Nxf5



I guess the only reason Anish did not resign here is the frustration realising the World Championship boat has been missed.

33...Ne5 34.Rd6 Ree8 35.Rd4 Nc6 36.Rd2 Rbd8 37.Rxd8 Rxd8 38.Rd5
Rxd5 39.cxd5 Ne5 40.Nd6 Kf8 41.Kf2 Ke7 42.Nb5 Kf6 43.Ke3 Kf5
44.Nd6+ Kf6 45.Ke4 Nd7 46.Kd4 Ke7 47.Nb5 Kf6 48.Nc3 Kf5 49.Ne4 Kg6
50.g4 b5 51.Nc5 1-0

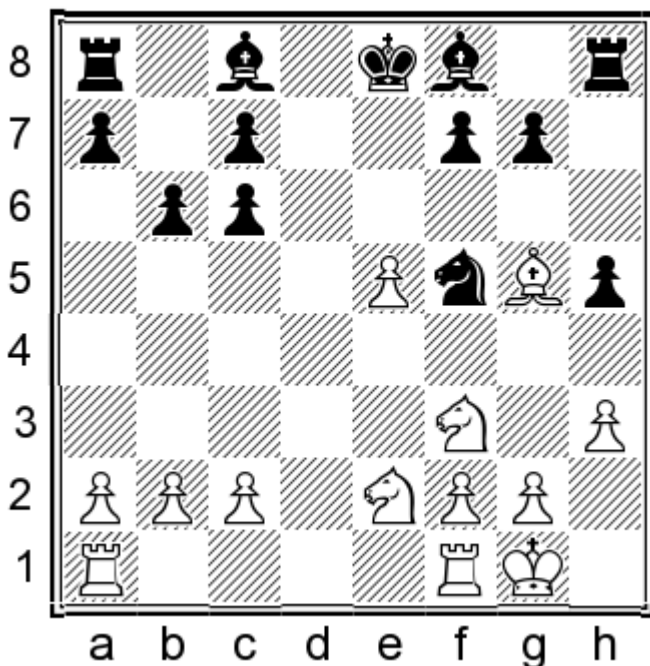


Aleksander Grischuk vs Anish Giri, Yekaterinburg 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

C67

Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2767) - Wang, Hao (2762)
Yekaterinburg (ct), 2021

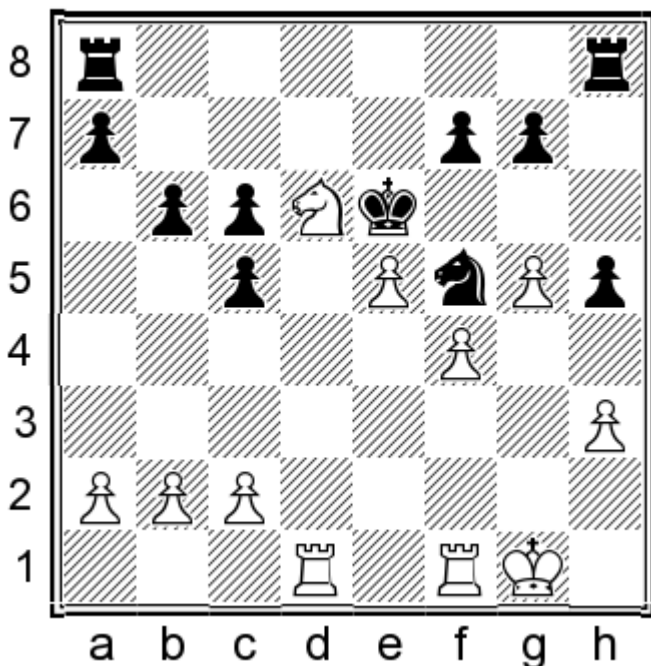
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.O-O Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5
Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Ke8 10.Nc3 h5 11.Ne2 b6 12.Bg5



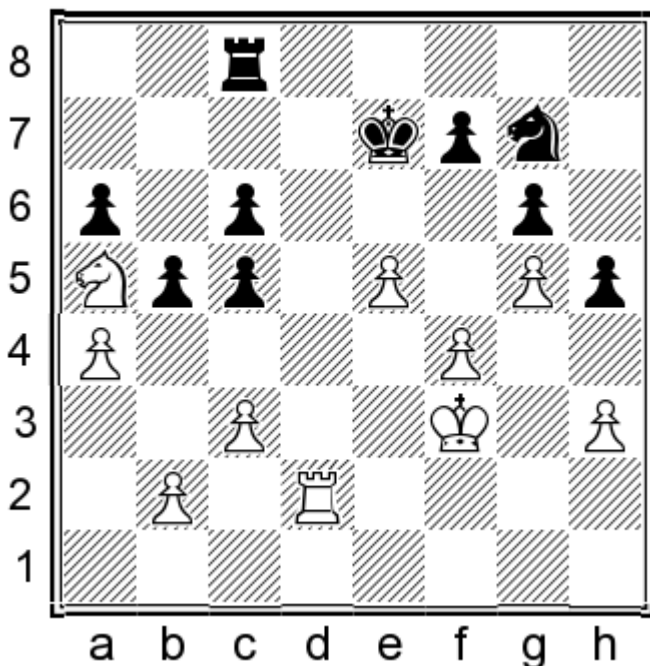
Vachier-Lagrave has played this line before and prefers to place his rook from f1 to d1. It (in my opinion) does not really matter. White's advantage (if any) is of an academic and temporary nature. Maxime definitely knew that Black would not have any real problems to reach a drawish outcome, but most likely (after losing his qualifying chances and playing the last round) did not have much energy left and wanted to give it a "little risk free try" while understanding draw to be the most likely result. Black should not have any problems equalising in this line, but needs to be precise and cannot resort to waiting strategy. Should Black resort to a "waiting strategy" (as Wang Hao did in this game) White will improve his position and Black will get in trouble. It is interesting that Anish Giri (playing Black the same position six years earlier) allowed the very similar type of mistake as Wang Hao did in this game!

12...c5 13.Nc3

Let's see the aforementioned game of Giri's and the similar mistake he made! That game continued 13.Rad1 Bb7 14.Nc3 Bxf3 (14...Be7 with a later draw was played in Vachier-Lagrave,Maxime 2798 - Kramnik,Vladimir 2812, Dortmund 2016) 15.gxf3 c6 16.f4 Be7 17.Ne4 Bxg5 18.fxg5 Ke7 White's rooks are placed differently (which does not really matter), but pawn structure is exactly the same (as in our game) and Giri will make exactly the same mistake as Wang Hao did! 19.Nd6 Ke6 20.f4



The position is about equal and a draw (by far) the most likely result, but Black must NOT resort to "waiting strategy"! 20...Nxd6! forcing the matters brings game to a drawish outcome. (20...Rad8? 21.Rfe1 now Black is in (terrible) trouble (!). Just like in our game, White doubles on the d-file, then opens the d-file to his benefit reaching a winning position 21...g6 22.Kf2 Nd4 23.c3 Nf5 24.Kf3 Black's position is now hopeless. Game continues (more or less) the same as our main game. 24...Ng7 (24...Nh4+ loses to 25.Kg3 Nf5+ 26.Nxf5 gxf5 (26...Kxf5 27.e6 +-) 27.Rd6+! Rxd6 28.exd6+ Kxd6 29.Kh4 +- and this rook ending is easily won for White.) 25.Rd2 Ke7 26.Red1 Rhg8 27.a4 a6 now White utilises the d-file. 28.Nc4 Rxd2 29.Rxd2 b5 30.Na5 Rc8



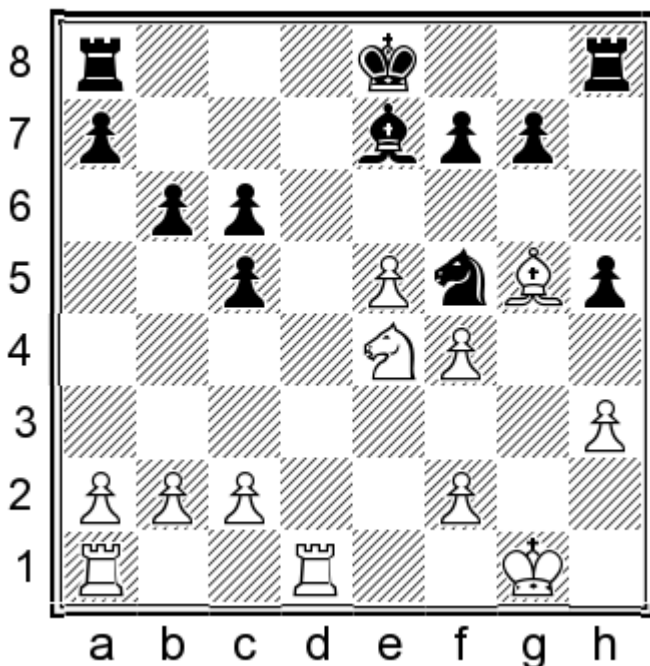
31.Rd6 +- Black's position is hopeless, though he managed to draw in Grischuk,Alexander 2750 - Giri,Anish 2778, London 2015 - 127/119)

21.Rxd6+ Kf5 Black's king is active. White may collect a pawn, but that does not change the drawish ending. 22.Rxc6 (or 22.Rd7 Rhf8 23.Rc7 Rac8 24.Rxa7 Ra8 25.Rb7 Rab8=) 22...Rac8 23.Rd6 Rhd8=

13...Bb7 14.Rfd1 Bxf3 15.gxf3 c6 16.f4

16.Rd3 Be7 17.Ne4 Rd8 18.Rad1 Rxd3 19.Rxd3 Bxg5 20.Nxg5 Ke7= with equality, and later a draw was agreed in Vachier-Lagrave,Maxime 2781 - Nakamura,Hikaru 2746, London 2018

16...Be7 17.Ne4

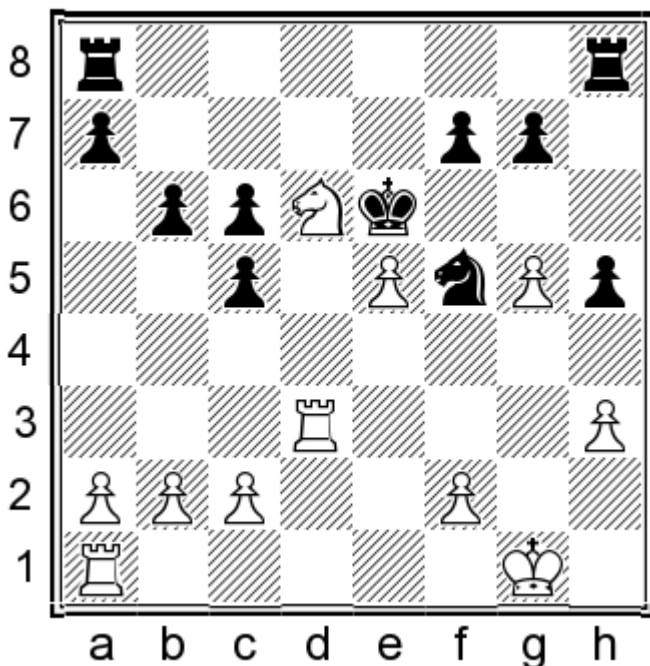


The position is about equal, but Black does need to take some concrete decisions. Wang Hao will simply refuse to do anything (rather than passively sit on his hands) and watch his ship sink.

17...Bxg5

Since White has the rooks placed a1 and d1 (compared to Grischuk - Giri d1 and f1) Black has easy draw after 17...Rf8! = (threat is 18...f6) 18.Ng3 (18.Bxe7 can transpose to comments 18...Ng3 under 18...Kxe7 19.Ng3 Nxe3 (19...Ke6 = is equal too.) 20.fxe3 Rad8 21.Kf2 Rd5 =) 18...Bxg5 (18...Nxe3 19.Bxe7 Kxe7 20.fxe3 Rad8 21.Kf2 (21.f5? g6 22.g4 Rg8) 21...Rd5 = - and White will have to take on d5, correcting Black's double pawns.) 19.Nxf5 Bxf4 and best for White is draw by perpetual check: 20.Nxe7+ Ke7 21.Nf5+ Ke6 22.Ng7+ Ke7 =

18.fxe5 Ke7 19.Nd6 Ke6 20.Rd3



We have the situation identical to Grischuk - Giri game! Black can "clean-up" into a draw, but he decides to wait.

20...Rhd8?!

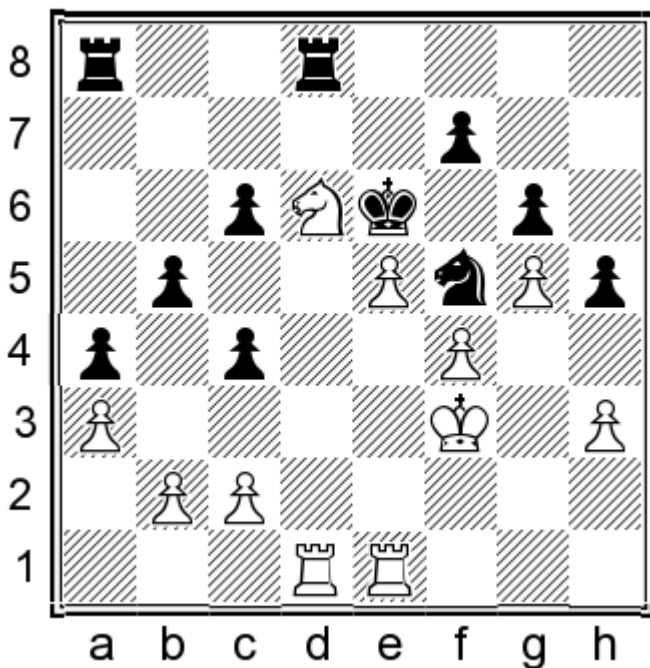
20...Nxd6! was easy draw: 21.exd6 Kd7 22.Rf3 f6 23.gxf6 gxf6 24.Rxf6 (24.Re1 Rae8 25.Rxe8 Rxe8 26.Kf1 Re6 27.Rf5 Rxd6 28.Ke2 Ke6 29.Rxh5 a5 =) 24...Raf8 =

21.Re1 Black has complicated his own life, but still he can hold! Now however, Black really needs to be precise. At the start Wang Hao correctly looks for counterplay.

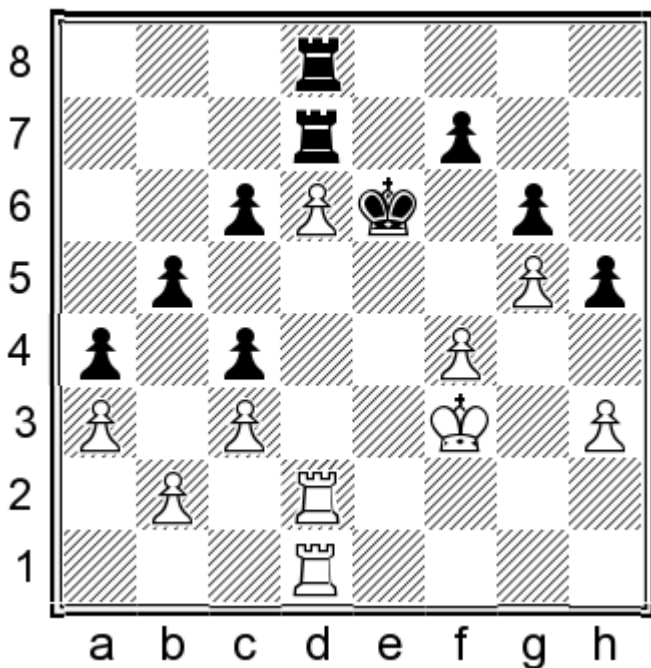
21...a5 22.f4 c4

Perhaps it does not hurt to mention that trying to double with 22...Rd7?? is a piece blunder. 23.Nxf5

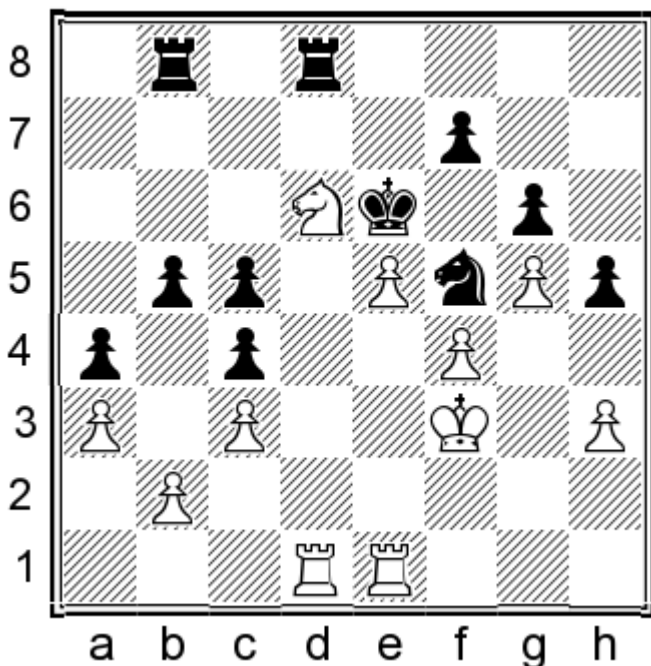
23.Rdd1 b5 24.Kf2 a4 25.a3 g6 26.Kf3



Another way for White was 26.c3 Black seems to be just in time with his counterplay holding the game: 26...Rab8 27.Kg2 now Black needs to be active and precise: (In case of 27.Rd2 Black can double 27...Rd7 28.Red1 Rbd8 29.Kf3 (White has 30.Nf7 threat, Black is in time with a "clean up") 29...Nxd6 30.exd6



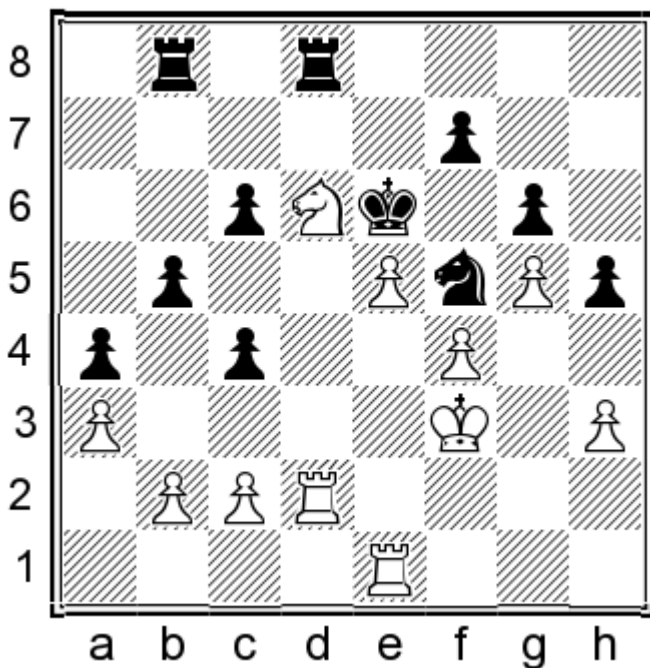
30...f5! (30...Rxd6?? is a horrible blunder due to 31.Re1+ Kd7 32.Rxd6+ Kxd6 33.Rd1+ Kc7 34.Rxd8 Kxd8 35.Ke4 and White wins the pawn endgame. 35...Ke7 36.Ke5 h4 37.f5 +-) 31.gxf6 Kxf6 = with a dead draw.) 27...c5!
28.Kf3



28...b4! (28...Nh4+? is a terrible blunder (losing to a motif shown in Grischuk - Giri) 29.Kg3 Nf5+ 30.Nxf5 gxf5 (30...Kxf5 31.e6 +-) 31.Rd6+! (31.Kh4? Rd3) 31...Rxd6 32.exd6+ Kxd6 33.Re5 +- and White should win the rook endgame.) 29.axb4 cxb4 30.cxb4 now Black needs last precise move 30...Ra8! Black has enough counterplay for a draw: 31.Nxf5 (31.Nxc4 Rdb8© can easily become favourable for Black.; 31.Kf2 h4 = (31...Rdb8 =)) 31...gxf5 = (31...Kxf5?? 32.e6 +-)

26...Ng7?? Another move in Black's "waiting strategy". Just like Giri, Wang Hao goes with his knight to g7, while he could have saved the game with active counterplay.

To make the matters worse (for Black) 26...Rab8 seems to be leading to a draw too! 27.Rd2



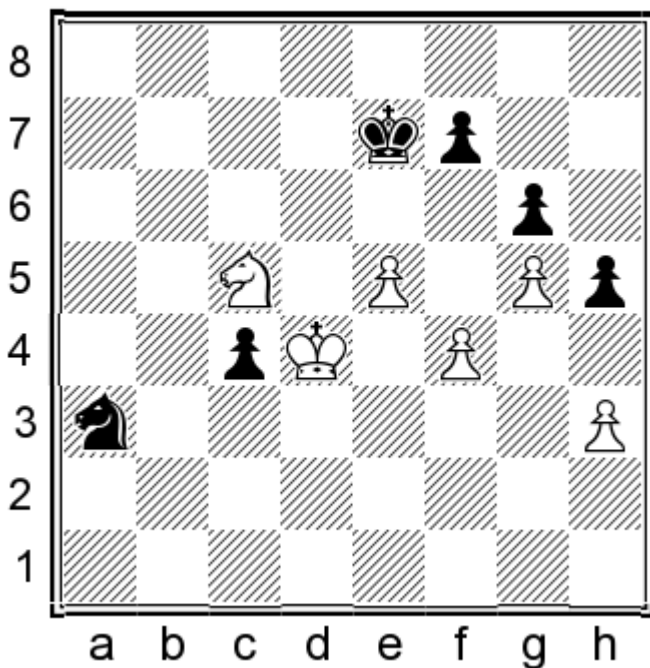
27...c5! 28.Red1 Nxd6 29.exd6 Kd7 30.Rd5 Kc6 31.d7 b4=;

26...c5! 27.Nxb5 (27.c3 b4 28.Nxc4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Rxd1 30.Rxd1 Rb8=)

27...Rxd1 28.Rxd1 Rb8 29.Nc3 (or 29.Nc7+ Ke7 30.Nd5+ Ke6 31.Nc3 Rxb2)

29...Rxb2 30.Rd2 Nd4+ 31.Ke4 Rxc2 32.Rxc2 Nxc2 33.Nxa4 Nxa3

34.Nxc5+ Ke7 35.Kd4



Now Black needs to fix the white h3-pawn: 35...h4! = 36.Kc3 Nb1+ and we have (more or less) forced sequence of moves leading to a draw - 37.Kxc4 Nd2+ 38.Kd3 Nf3 39.Ke3 Ng1 40.Nd3 Nxh3 41.Kf3 Ke6 42.Kg2 Nxf4+ 43.Nxf4+ Kxe5 =

27.Rd2 +- Black has missed all his 'counterplay boats' and now his position is hopeless.

27...Ne8

Or 27...Rd7 28.Red1 Rad8 29.Nxf7 +-

28.Red1 Nc7 29.Nxb5 1-0

YEKATERINBURG (ct), IV 2021
The second half of the FIDE Candidates Tournament

cat. XXI (2774)

Time Control: 100 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 50 minutes for the next 20 moves and then 15 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move 1.

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1	NEPOMNIACHTCHI*	g	2789	■ ■	0 ½	1 ½	½ ½	1 0	½ ½	½ 1	1 1	8½
2	VACHIER-LAGRAVE	g	2758	1 ½	■ ■	½ ½	½ 0	1 ½	½ 0	½ 1	½ 1	8
3	ANISH GIRI	g	2776	0 ½	½ ½	■ ■	½ 1	½ 1	½ 0	1 0	½ 1	7½
4	F. CARUANA	g	2820	½ ½	½ 1	½ 0	■ ■	0 ½	½ ½	1 ½	½ 1	7½
5	DING LIREN	g	2791	0 1	0 ½	½ 0	1 ½	■ ■	½ 1	½ 1	0 ½	7
6	A. GRISCHUK	g	2777	½ ½	½ 1	½ 1	½ ½	½ 0	■ ■	½ 0	½ ½	7
7	K. ALEKSEENKO	g	2696	½ 0	½ 0	0 1	0 ½	½ 0	½ 1	■ ■	½ ½	5½
8	WANG HAO	g	2763	0 0	½ 0	½ 0	½ 0	1 ½	½ ½	½ ½	■ ■	5

* Qualified for the 2021 FIDE World Championship Match against reigning world champion Magnus Carlsen in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, between 24 November and 16 December 2021.

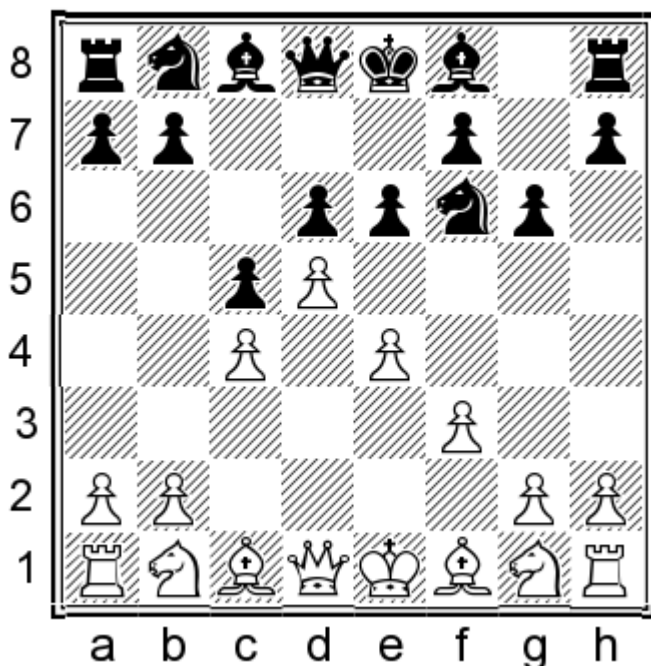
E60

Ding, Liren (2805) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2774)

Yekaterinburg (ct), 2021

For Ian Nepomniachtchi was certainly not easy to find energy needed for this game, as he already won the Candidates Tournament. Nevertheless, this game has importance for opening theory and I decided to include it in my selection.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 e6 4.e4 c5 5.d5 d6



6.Bd3!? Strangely enough, but according to my database - a novelty! Ding

Liren wants to combine Bd3 development plan with Ne2-c3. Fresh idea at very early stage of the game, though it will be interesting to see if gets many followers. Nepo reacts in a true Benoni style and his reaction was (I think) good.

Bishop development on d3 versus Benoni normally comes with this move order: 6.Nc3 exd5 7.cxd5 Bg7 8.Bd3 O-O 9.Nge2 this line is not much played and Black had good results in practice - Kuligowski,Adam 2450 - Schmidt,Wlodzimierz 2475, Polska 1982 - 35/117, A 65

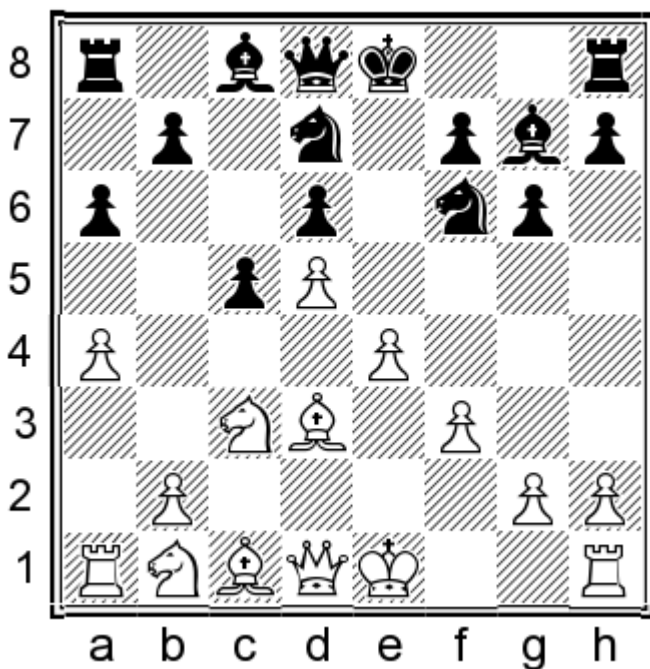
6...Bg7 7.Ne2 exd5

The Benko Gambit type of idea is 7...b5!? however it is doubtful if Black is getting enough compensation after 8.dxe6 Bxe6 9.cxb5

8.cxd5 Nbd7 9.Nec3 Ding Liren's idea behind 6. Bd3!? - willing to hybrid different Benoni lines.

9.Nbc3 leads to known positions. 9...O-O - A 65

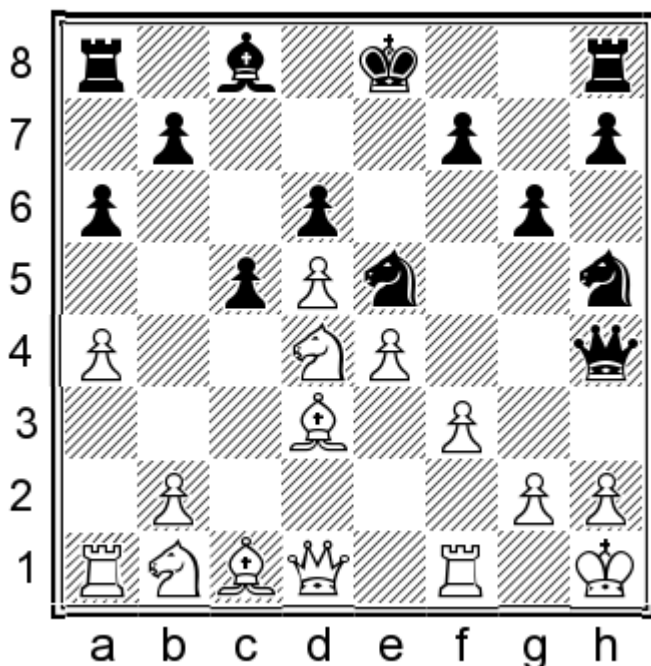
9...a6 10.a4



True to his style, Nepo goes for immediate active play.

10...Nh5! 11.O-O Ding Liren solves the problem with his king's position, not being "afraid of the ghosts", obviously still in his preparation. Next few moves are (though not forced) very logical.

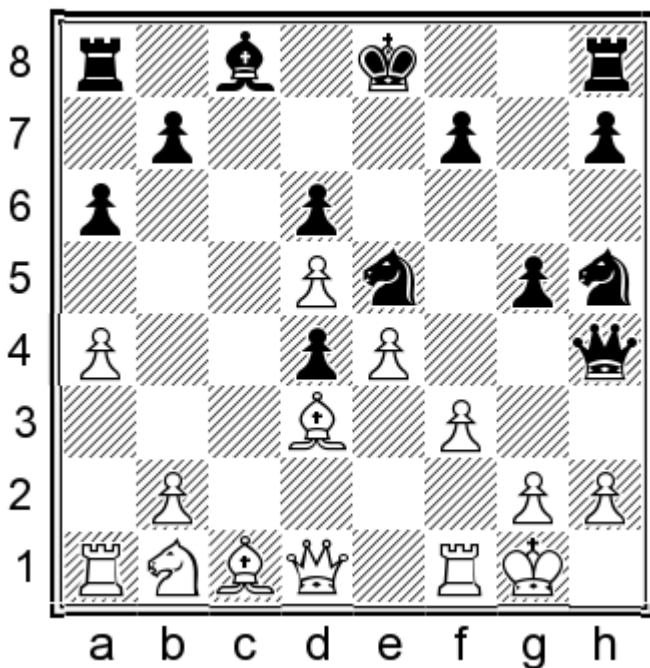
11...Bd4+ 12.Kh1 Ne5 13.Ne2! Qh4 14.Nxd4



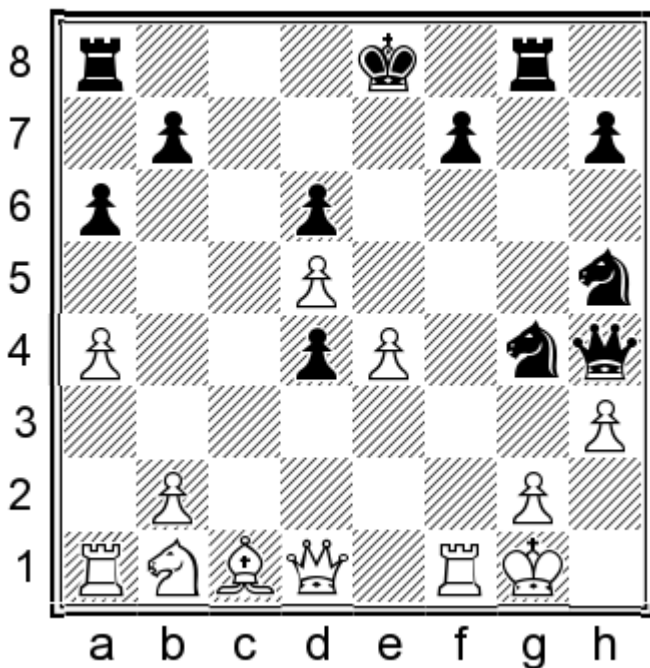
Critical moment. In sharp opening variations like this one, critical moment(s) often comes(s) early! Nepo clearly miscalculated something and makes a decisive mistake. It can well be that "tension release" (knowing to have already had qualified for the World Championship match) influenced Ian's "full concentration" effort.

14...Nxd3?

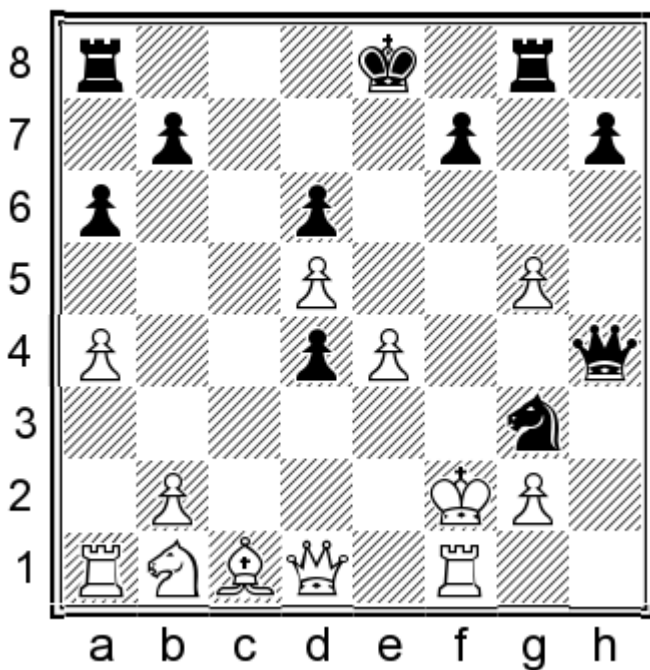
Theoretical investigation (trying to determine the relevance of 6.Bd3!?) will focus on 14...cxd4 position is very complicated, and looks dynamically balanced. Sequence of moves leading to this position is very logical, so Ding Liren was likely (still) in his home preparation. I will try to give possible run of play and assumption of direction of Ding Liren's home preparation. 15.Kg1 Black has no time to waste and needs to go for immediate attack. I assume the following exchange sacrifice idea is what Ding Liren had in mind. 15...g5!



16.Ra3! (16.Be2 loses too much time, Black having various ways to get excellent play (resulting positions looking dangerous for White) 16...d3! this pawn sacrifice discoordinates White (and forces him to lose time). (16...g4 is (probably) premature as after 17.fxg4 Bxg4 18.Bxg4 Nxg4 19.h3 Rg8

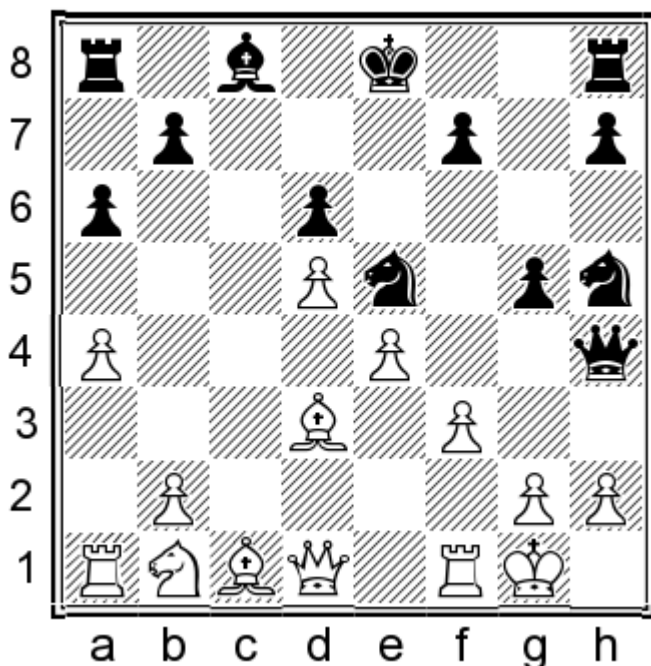


White can be greedy: 20.hxg4! Ng3 21.g5! Qh1+ 22.Kf2 Qh4

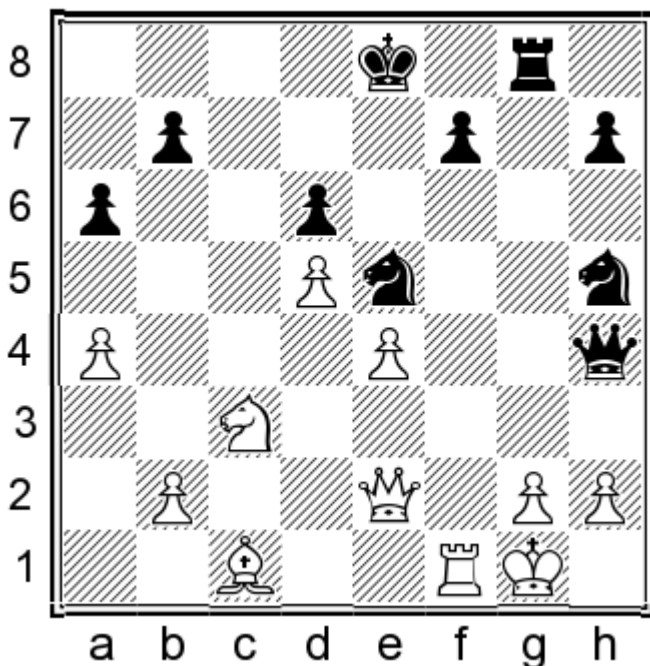


Now White does not need to agree to a move repetition, as his king runs to safety after 23.Ra3! Nxfl+ 24.Kxf1 Qh1+ 25.Ke2 Qxg2+ 26.Kd3 Qf2

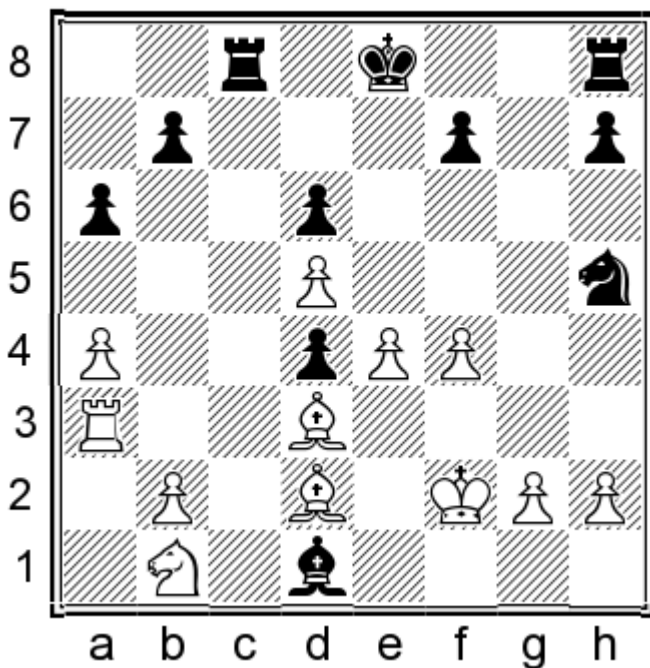
27.Kc4! Rc8+ 28.Kb3 with White's advantage.) 17.Bxd3



Here Black has two good continuations at his disposal: 17...g4! (17...Rg8 18.Be2 g4 19.fxc4 (19.f4?? g3- +) 19...Bxc4© and now is probably smart for White to agree to a draw by perpetual check. 20.Qe1 (Playing for a win is risky for White as after 20.Ra3 Bxe2 21.Qxe2 Rc8© Black has excellent compensation. One example of Black's attacking potential is 22.Rc3 Rxc3 23.Nxc3



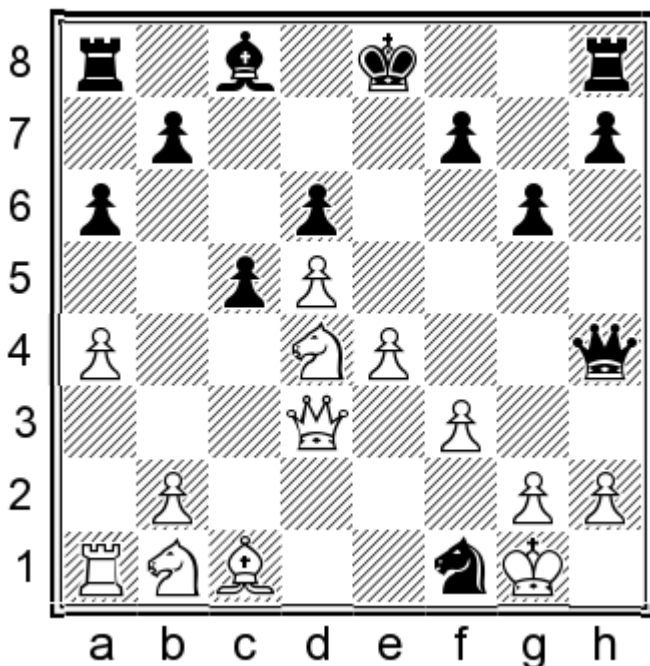
Now Black has beautiful attacking idea in 23...Rg3! (24...Ng4 is a terrible threat and to prevent it White has to part with his queen) (23...Ng4 leads to unclear game after 24.h3 Ne5 25.Rf5 Ng3 26.Rxe5+ dxe5 27.Qc4 ∞) 24.Qf2 (24.hxg3?? Nxg3- + 25.Qd2 Ng4) 24...Nf3+ 25.Qxf3 Rxf3 26.Rxf3 in this materially imbalanced position, if somebody is better - it is Black.) 20...Nf3+ 21.Bxf3 Bxf3 and a draw by perpetual check: 22.Qxh4 Rxd2+ 23.Kh1 Rf2+=) 18.f4 Nxd3! (18...Nf3+?? 19.Rxf3 gxf3 20.Qxf3 Bg4 is hopeless for Black as compared to 16.Ra3 g4, Black does not have his d4-pawn. 21.Qf2 +-) 19.Qxd3 g3 20.h3 Bxh3 This position looks like a nightmare for White. Black has draw in his pocket and might well have a killing blow, e.g. 21.gxh3 g2 22.Rf2 (In the case of 22.Rd1 Rg8 23.Ra3 Ng3 24.Rd2! Qxf4 25.Rd1 Qh4 26.Rd2 White might pray Black not to have more than a draw.) 22...Rg8 23.Rxg2 Kd7 24.Qf1 Ng3 looks very promising for Black. (Black also had a draw in his pocket with 24...Rxg2+ 25.Kxg2 Rg8+ 26.Kh2 Qg3+ 27.Kh1 Qg6 28.Kh2 =)) 16...g4 White goes for an exchange sacrifice: 17.f4 Nf3+ 18.Rxf3 gxf3 19.Qxf3 Bg4 20.Qf2 Qxf2+ 21.Kxf2 Rc8 22.Bd2 Bd1 ∞



I think that Ding Liren had this variation in mind. My engine gives zeros, but White obviously has good compensation and well prepared player definitely should have an edge!

15.Qxd3 Now (after next few forced moves) smoke is soon going to clear, White having winning advantage.

15...Ng3+ 16.Kg1 Nxf1



17.Nc2! Perhaps the move Nepo underestimated (or missed).

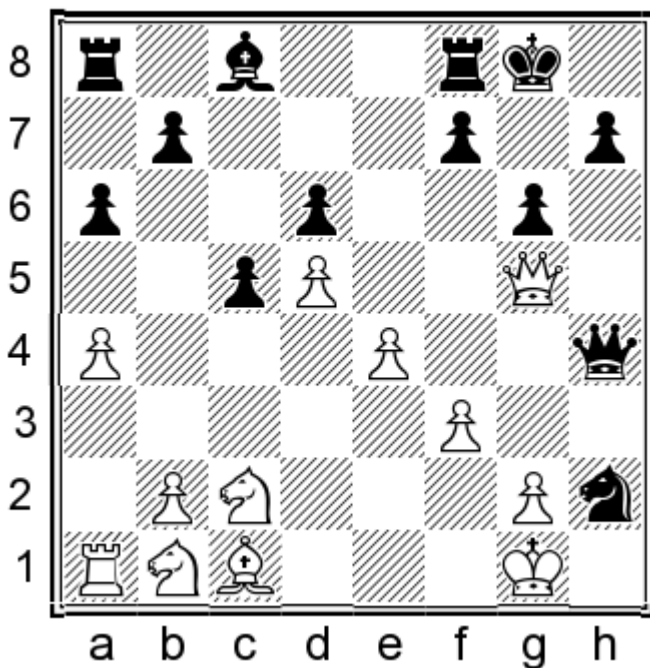
17...Nxb2

17...Qxh2+ loses to 18.Kxf1 Qh1+ 19.Kf2 Qxc1 20.Qc3! with 21.Nd2 to follow and Black's queen is trapped.

18.Qe3 O-O

My computer engine suggests 18...g5 but White has abundant choice in 19.Nd2 (Or 19.e5) 19...O-O 20.Nc4

19.Qg5 +-



Black loses material, while his weak king remains a problem.

19...Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 Qh3 21.Bf4 Qxf3 22.Nd2 f6

22...Qd3 23.Qf6

23.Qxg6+ hxg6 24.Nxf3 Bg4 25.Nd2 Be2 26.Kf2 Bd3 27.Ne1 c4 28.Bxd6 Rfe8 29.Nxd3 cxd3 30.Bc7 Kf7 31.Ra3 Rac8 32.d6 Ke6 33.Rxd3 Kd7 34.Nc4 Rxc7 35.Nb6+ 1-0



Ding Liren vs Ian Nepomniachtchi, Yekaterinburg 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes



Closing ceremony, Yekaterinburg 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

OLD WINE IN NEW BOTTLES

Marin



EVERY NEW IDEA IS ACTUALLY A LONG FORGOTTEN ONE

There is an almost unanimous opinion that, in chess as in other fields, the beginning of the third Millennium features an explosion of information that is without precedent.

To me, this seems a bit exaggerated. I remember that as a kid I found similar statements in many of the opening monographies of the '80s, the '70s and even of the '50s. Believe it or not, a similar informatics explosion is described in the introduction of the first edition of the *Bilguer's Handbuch*, the Chess Encyclopaedia of the 19th century.

There is nothing really new in life or in chess. In every game, there comes a moment when a novelty inevitably pops up, but one cannot be sure that the idea behind it has not been played before.

In this column, I will try to highlight the way in which certain strategic and tactical ideas have maintained their actuality over the decades and sometimes centuries. I invite you to re-discover with me some long forgotten chess from the past.

THE KNIGHT DOMINATED BY A (NOT SO) BAD BISHOP

We usually refer to a bishop as "bad" when several important own pawns (such as the central ones) are placed on squares of the same colour. However, this evaluation is relative and requires a concrete insight into the position.

Firstly, the term of "bad bishop" mainly applies to endings where this piece fights against an enemy bishop or knight, without any other pieces on board. This important aspect is frequently overlooked.

Secondly, depending on the concrete pawn configuration, the pawns blocked on the same colour as that corresponding to the bishop, may actually ensure its stable control over the important diagonal. In certain cases, this could allow the effective king's intrusion, but more typically it has meaning in endings with other pieces on board, for instance one rook on each side.

The first examined game, played just days before I am writing these lines, illustrates the latter idea.

D11

Yu, Yangyi (2709) - Liu, Yan (2524)
China (ch), 2021

Mihail Marin



• **Country:** România

• **Born:** 1965

• **Rating:** 2502

• **Peak rating:** 2616

• **Title:** Grandmaster since 1985

1.d4 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Nf3 c6 4.c4

In blitz and rapid games on the internet, I have regularly used a slightly different move order: 4.Bg2 Bf5 5.c4 e6 (5...dxc4 makes less sense with the queen's bishop developed already.) 6.Nc3 Nbd7 7.Qb3!? Qb6 8.c5 The point behind delaying the castle is that 8...Qa6?! runs into 9.Bf1! for instance! 9...b5 10.a4!

4...Bf5

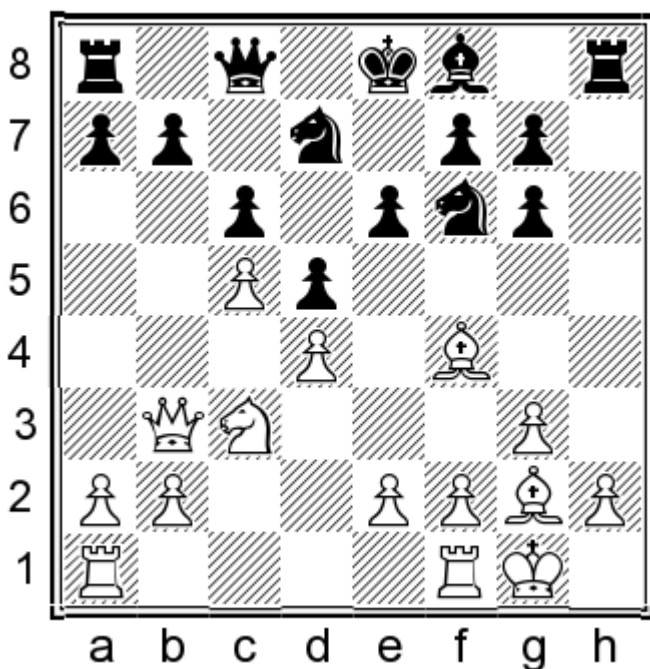
With the bishop on c8 still, Black could consider 4...dxc4 leading to typical Catalan/Slav gambit lines.

5.Nc3 e6 6.Qb3 Qb6 7.c5 Qc7

7...Qa6? is completely impossible due to 8.e4 +-;

7...Qxb3 is a slight positional concession, but might be the lesser evil under the given circumstances. 8.axb3 Na6 (Black is not in time to evacuate the rook from the a-file after 8...Nbd7 9.b4 a6 10.b5² Tu, Hoang Thong 2428 - Penrose, Justin 1986, Australia (ch) 2014) 9.Bg2 Be7 10.O-O Nd7 White has more space, but still needs to prove his advantage.

8.Nh4 Bg6 9.Bf4 Qc8 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Bg2 Nbd7 12.O-O



12...Be7 Black rightly decides to continue his kingside development.

The principled 12...b6 exposes the king to a brutal attack. 13.e4 bxc5 (13...dxe4 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 (... Qf3) 15...Nf6 16.cxb6! axb6 17.Bf3 +- The pressure on c6 and b6 is decisive, due to Black's delay in development.) 14.exd5 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 cxd5 16.Bxd5! exd5 17.Rfe1+ Be7 (17...Kd8 18.Qxd5 +-) 18.Bd6 O-O 19.Bxe7 c4 20.Qf3 Re8 21.Qxd5 ±

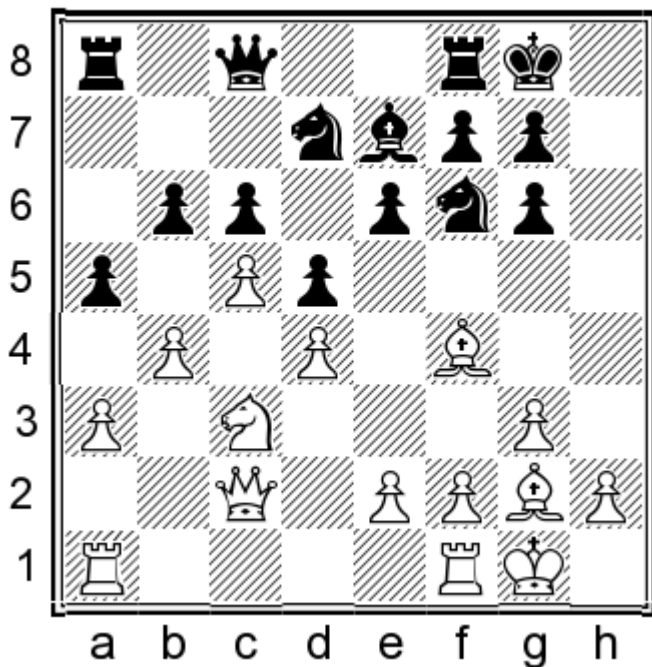
13.Qc2 Preparing to consolidate the pawn on c5 with b4.

13...b6N

13...O-O 14.b4 does not change the character of the fight too much. 14...Re8

15.b5 (15.Rab1 Bd8 16.b5² Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar 2765 - Wang,Hao 2710, Beijing (rapid) 2014) 15...Bd8 16.bxc6 bxc6 17.e4 dxe4 18.Nxe4 Be7 19.Rab1 Nd5 20.Nd6 Bxd6 21.Bxd6 ± Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar 2765 - Wang,Hao 2710, Beijing (blitz) 2014

14.b4 a5 15.a3 O-O



16.e4! Yielding Black the d5-square for his knight, but clearing the own knight's access to d6.

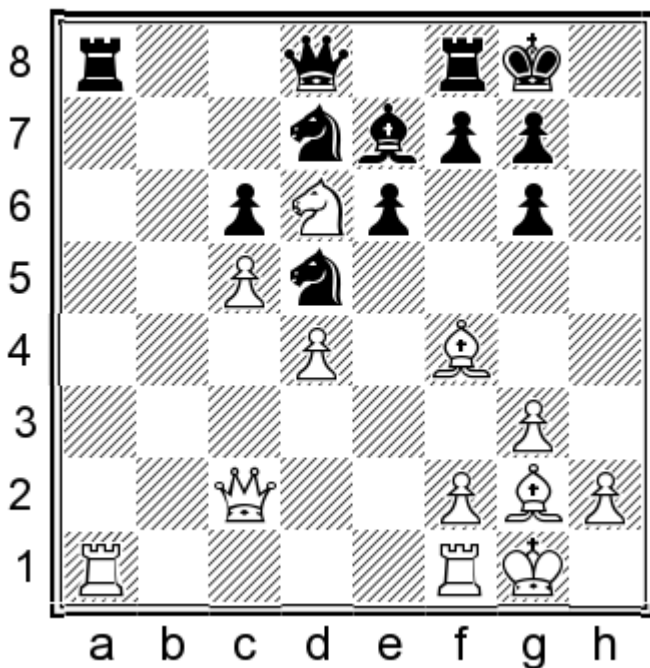
16...axb4 17.axb4 bxc5 18.bxc5 dxe4

18...Rxa1 19.Rxa1 Qb7 20.exd5 (20.e5 Ne8 21.Bf1 Nc7 22.h4 ±) 20...Nxd5 21.Nxd5 exd5 22.Bh3 f5 23.Bf1 ±

19.Nxe4 Nd5

19...Nxe4 20.Qxe4 dooms the pawn on c6.

20.Nd6 Qd8



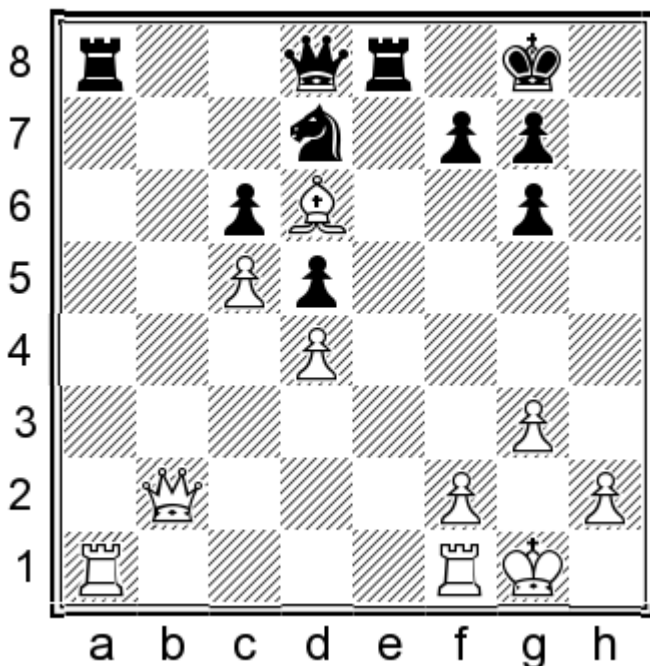
21.Bxd5?! This is an unnecessary concession, but on the other hand it leads to the typical situation discussed in this article.

21.Be5! was stronger, as the bishop is not in danger at all. For instance:

21...Rxa1 (21...Kh7 22.h4) 22.Rxa1 f6 23.Qxg6 fxe5 24.Qxe6+ Kh8 25.Bxd5 cxd5 26.Nf7+ Rxf7 27.Qxf7 +-

21...exd5 22.Qb2 Bxd6 Black could not tolerate this knight for too long.

23.Bxd6 Re8



White has two central pawns blocked on dark squares and his kingside pawns are (at least temporarily) placed on squares of the same colour. However, with all the major pieces on board the bishop is not bad at all. It ensures White's control over the b-file and restricts some of Black's pieces, too.

At the same time, the bishop does not have any targets yet. In the future, the pawn on g7 may become vulnerable, but some exchanges are needed for that.

24.Qb7! White has to act energetically in order to maintain a slight advantage.

A neutral move such as 24.Kg2 allows Black to regroup properly. 24...Rxa1 25.Rxa1 Qc8 26.Ra7 Nf6 27.Qb7 Qe6 Now the weakness induced by the kingside pawns' presence on dark squares offers Black enough counterplay.

24...Rxa1 25.Rxa1 Qc8 26.Qxc8! The best way of exchanging queens, forcing the enemy rook to abandon the important e-file.

26.Ra7 Qxb7 27.Rxb7 Nf8 28.Rc7 Ne6 =

26...Rxc8 We have reached the thematic ending mentioned in the introduction. White's position is more pleasant and his bishop is not bad at all. There are two reasons why Black may need to keep his rook passive in order to defend the pawn on c6. The bishop prevents him from achieving this aim not only with ...Nb8, but also with ...Re8-e6.

We are approaching a critical moment in which Black should take a crucial

decision. After failing to do that, he will be doomed to a long struggle.

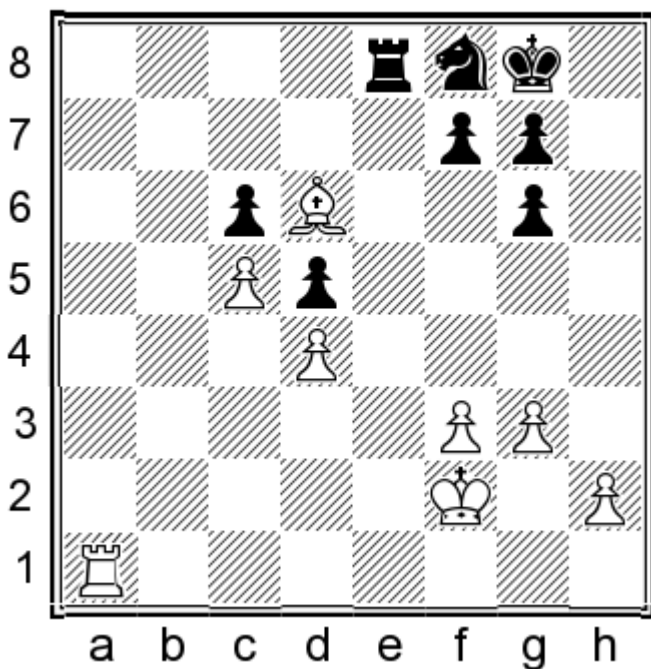
27.f3 Nf8 28.Kf2

28.Bxf8 yields White only a symbolic advantage. 28...Kxf8 29.h4 (29.Ra6 g5) 29...Re8 30.Kf2 f6

28...Re8?!

Black played this move quickly, after less than one minute. His reasoning must have been that after preventing the king's advance, ...Ne6 would ensure a static equality. This sounds logical, but he must have overlooked White's brilliant answer.

Instead of his justifiable mistake, he should have strived for activity at once. 28...Ne6 29.Ke3 g5 (29...Re8 30.Kd3 Ng5 is also possible.) 30.Kd3 f6 With the kingside in full harmony, Black should have little to fear.

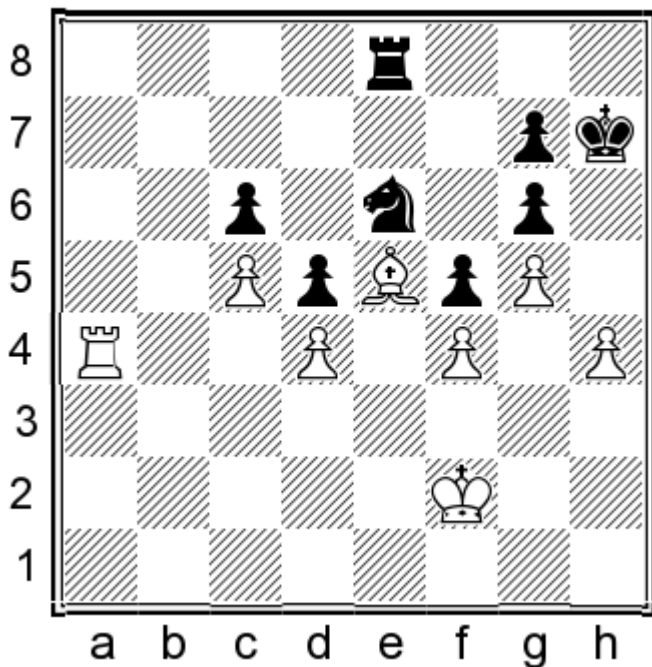


29.f4!! A brilliant concept, crossing Black's plans. The last move looks paradoxical, since it places another pawn in the bishop's way, while also weakening e4. The main idea is to question the knight's stability on e6 with g4 and f5. Should Black play ...f5 at any moment, White would reach a crushing domination with Be5.

29...Nh7 The best chance. The knight is heading for e4.

29...Ne6 30.Ra4 Kh7 (30...f5 31.Be5 g5 32.Ra6 gxf4 33.gxf4 Rc8 34.Ra7 Re8

35.Kg3 +-) 31.h4 Rd8 32.g4 f5 (32...Rc8 33.Kf3 Rd8 34.f5 gxf5 35.gxf5 Nf8
36.Ra6 +-) 33.g5 Re8 34.Be5 +-

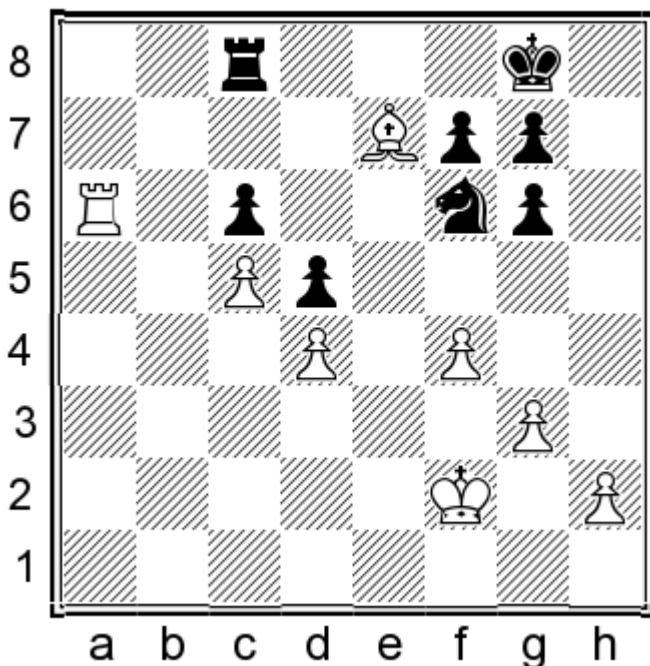


This position deserves a diagram. All White's pawns are blocked on dark squares and yet the bishop is enormously strong! It defends f4, restricts the enemy pieces and keeps g7 under pressure. White wins by transferring his king to the queenside.

30.Ra6 Rc8 31.Be7

The idea of dominating the knight is correct, but 31.Be5 may be more restrictive. 31...f6 (31...Nf6 32.Bxf6 transposes to the game.; 31...Nf8 32.Ke3 ±) 32.Bd6 ± The knight did not improve its position at all.

31...Nf6



31...Re8 32.Ra7 maintains the domination.

31...Nf8!?

32.Bxf6! White converts the dynamic superiority of the bishop over the knight into a structural advantage. Black will need to permanently worry about White creating a passed pawn on the h-file. Adding the favourable queenside situation, we can evaluate that White has excellent winning chances.

The ending loses relevance for our main theme, but remains instructive anyway.

32...gxf6 33.Ke3 Kf8?! Black once again refrains from creating counterplay.

33...Kg7!? planning the king's advance, would have offered better chances for survival. 34.f5! A thematic move, increasing White's structural advantage.

(34.Kd3? g5! 35.f5 g4 36.Ra7 Kh6 37.Rxf7 Kg5 =) 34...gxf5 (34...g5 35.h3 followed by the king's transfer to the queenside is winning.) 35.Kf4 Kg6 36.h4 followed by h5 with good winning chances.

34.Kd3 Rc7

Black does not have the time for stabilising the kingside with 34...f5 35.Kc3 Ke7 36.Kb4 Black misses just one tempo to regroup with ...Rc7, Kd7 and ...Rb7. Besides, the pawn on f5 discards counterplay with ...Ke6-f5. 36...Kd7 37.Ka5 Rb8 38.Ra7+ + -

35.Kc3

In this phase, White should have picked a moment for the operation: 35.f5! gxf5 36.h4 +- Black cannot fight against the threats on both wings.

35...Ke7 36.Kb4 Kd7 37.Ka5?!

37.f5! Rb7+ 38.Ka4! (×b3) 38...gxf5 (38...Rc7 39.h4 Rb7 40.g4) 39.h4 Rb1 40.Ra7+ Ke6 41.Rc7

37...Rb7 Black is out of danger already.

38.Ra8

38.f5 gxf5 39.h4 Rb3,,

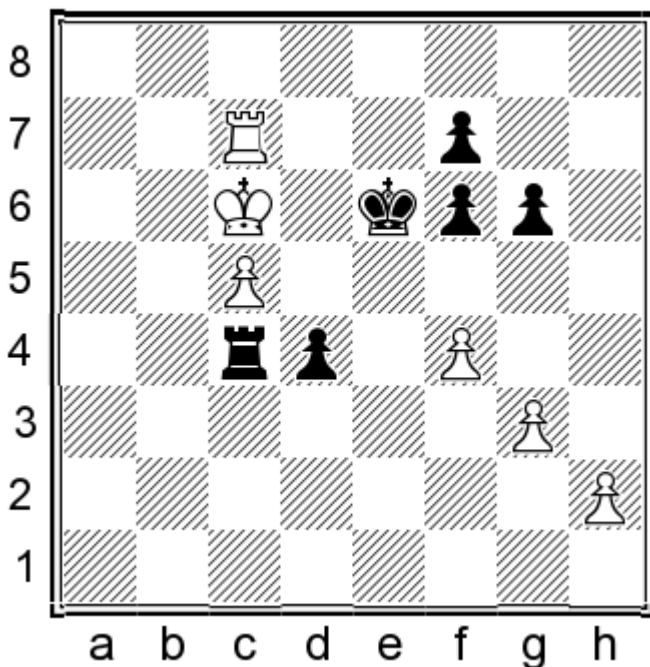
38...Rb5+ 39.Ka6 Rb4 40.Ra7+ Ke6 41.Rc7 Rxd4 42.Kb7 Rc4

42...Rd2!?

43.Kxc6

43.Rxc6+ Kf5 44.Kb6 Rb4+ 45.Ka6 Rb2 46.Rd6 Rxd2

43...d4 44.Rc8 Ke7 45.Rc7+ Ke6



46.f5+!? This thematic move is less effective than in the previous phase.

46...gxf5? Now only worsening the structure, but also failing to activate the king.

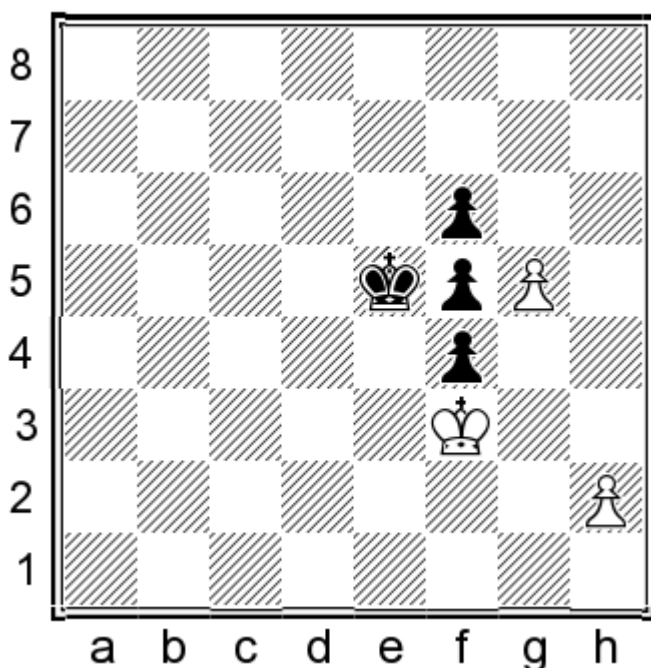
46...Kxf5! 47.Kd5 (47.Rxf7 d3 48.Rd7 Ke4) 47...Rc2 (47...Ra4 48.Rb7)
48.Kxd4 Rxb2

47.Rd7 Rxc5+? Losing by force.

47...Rc2 48.h4 Rc3 49.Rxd4 Rxg3 50.Kb5 Ke5 51.Rd2 The situation remains critical for Black, of course, but the game is very much still on.

48.Kxc5 Kxd7 49.Kxd4 Ke6 50.Ke3 Ke5

50...Ke5 51.Kf3 f4 (51...Kd6 52.Kf4 Ke6 53.h4 Kd7 54.Kxf5 Ke7 55.h5 +-)
52.g4! f5 53.g5! f6



54.g6! +-

1-0

When I saw this game, I remembered one of my most instructive losses more than three decades ago.

C82

Rodriguez Cespedes, Amador (2515) - Marin, Mihail (2485)
Novi Sad (ol) 50/370, 1990

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5
8.dxe5 Be6 9.Nbd2 Nc5 10.c3 Be7 11.Bc2 Bg4 12.Re1 Qd7 13.Nf1 Rd8
14.Ne3 Bh5 15.b4

15.Bf5 Chandler,Murray 2560 - Hjartarson, Johann 2520, Novi Sad (ol) 1990 - 50/(370)

15...Ne6 16.Nf5 O-O 17.a4 Rfe8 18.axb5 axb5 19.Qd3 Bg6TM 20.Qxb5!N

20.Rd1 Balashov,Yuri 2600 - Portisch,Lajos 2650, Moscow 1981 - 31/(390)

20...Nxe5TM 21.Qxd7 Nxd7

21...Nxf3+? 22.gxf3 Rxd7 23.Ba4 +-

22.Nxe7+ Rxe7 23.Bxg6 hxg6 24.Nd4!f After the game, Amador confessed that he has analysed this position long time ago, but during the game he could not remember whether he had concluded that White is just a bit better or winning.

24...Ree8 25.Nc6 Nd4

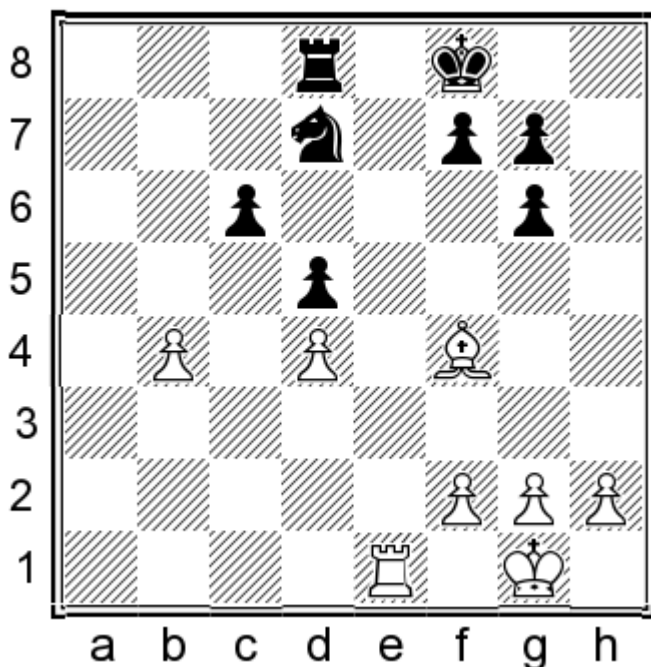
25...Ra8? 26.Ne7+ ±;

25...Rc8 26.Rd1 ... Be3²

26.Ne7+ Kf8 27.cxd4 Rxe7 28.Bf4!f - 28...Rxe1+

¹28...Rc8 29.Rec1! Nb6TM 30.Rc6 ... f3, b5 ±

29.Rxe1 [R 9/i] 29...c6



We can notice a strong similarity of this ending to the previous one. The main difference is that the white pawn is on b4 instead of c5. Since Black does not

have an obvious way of attacking it, the conclusion is that White has the additional idea of attacking the pawn on c6 with Rc1. This yields the rook a higher mobility.

It is also remarkable that Black will lose the game for similar reasons as above. In several moments, I failed to find a coherent plan for regrouping and soon got under crushing domination.

30.Rc1 ±

30.Bd6+ Kg8 31.Rc1 Nb8 32.Bc7 Rc8 33.Bf4 Rd8 34.f3 Kf8 Marin,Mihail

30...Re8?! ... Re6. Even though the bishop would not be defended on d6, Black's plan of defending the c6-pawn from e6 is unrealisable.

30...Ra8 31.Rxc6 Ra1+ 32.Rc1 +-;

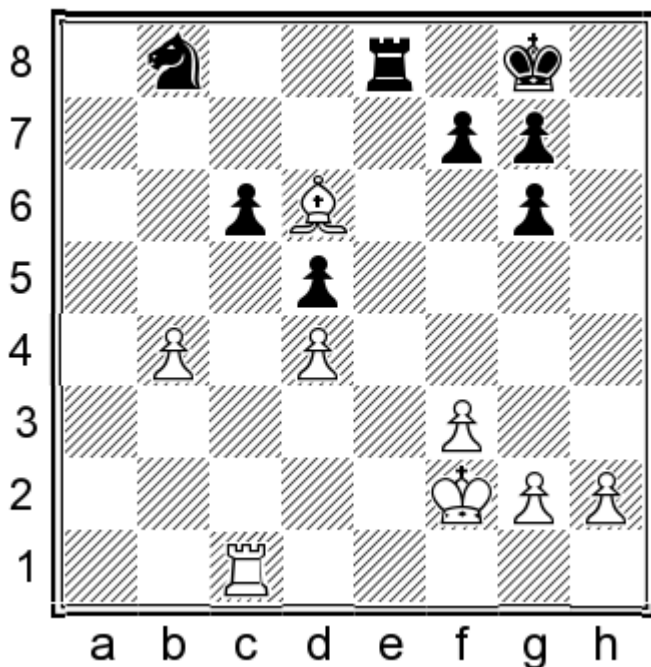
30...Nb8 ± (!?) 31.Bc7 Rc8 32.Bd6+ Ke8 33.b5 Kd7 = Marin,Mihail

31.Bd6+! Kg8 32.f3 Nb8

32...Re6 33.Rxc6 +- Rodriguez Cespedes,Amador

32...Rc8 33.b5 Marin, Mihail

33.Kf2



33...Rd8?! Black continues playing without a plan. He still had time to improve his position before White's king becomes too active.

33...g5! = × f4, ... f6 × e5. It is important to anticipate the main danger. Just like curing a disease in advance. 34.Ra1 (34.Rc5 f6 (... Rd8) 35.b5 cxb5 36.Rxb5 Nc6 = 37.Rxd5? Rd8!μ) 34...Nd7 35.Ra7 Nb6 36.Ra6 Nc4 37.Rxc6 Ra8,, Marin,Mihail. In this position, Black has finally managed to prove that he has a "good knight", ensuring him adequate compensation for the pawn.

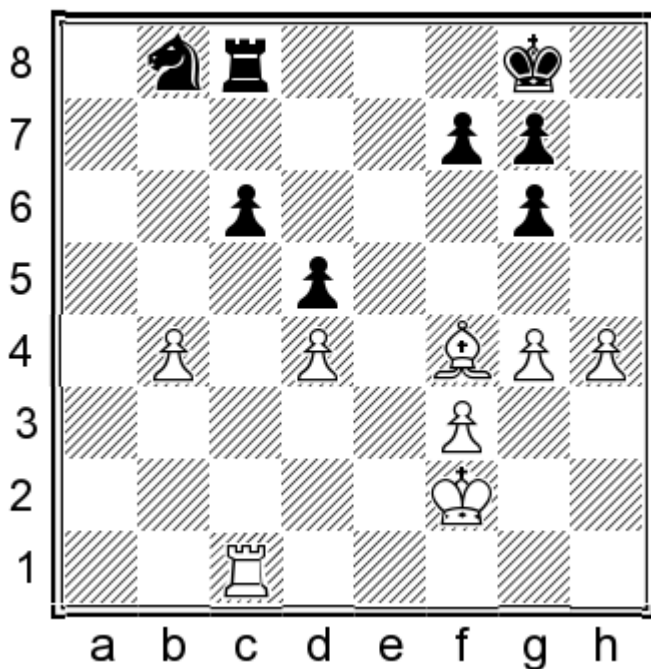
34.Bc7! In this phase of the game, the bishop helps White to repeatedly gain tempi with a systematic manoeuvre.

34.Bg3 Na6!

34...Rc8 35.Bg3 Re8 36.h4 Unlike me, Amador also thinks of the kingside structure. The g7-pawn will soon become weak.

36...Na6 37.Bd6 Nb8 38.g4 At this stage, White is close to winning already.

38...Rd8 39.Bc7 Rc8 40.Bf4



40...Rd8?

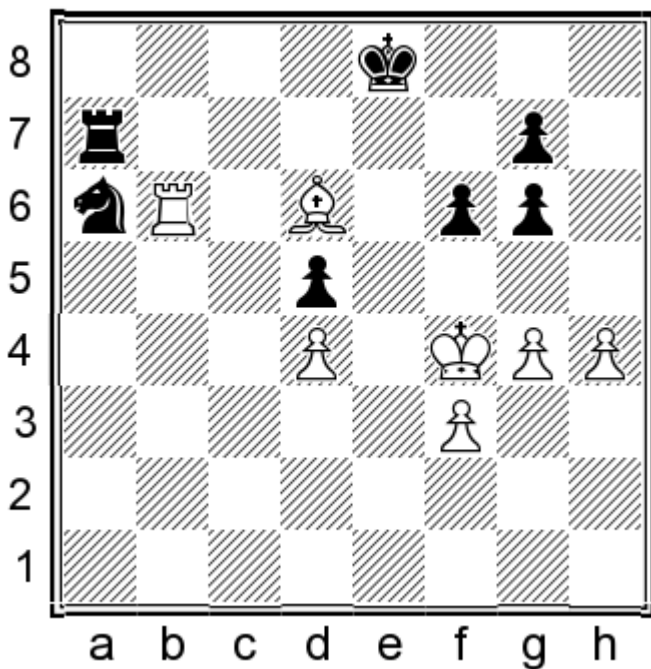
40...Re8 ± (Rodriguez Cespedes,Amador) In fact, this would not have prevented White from making progress. 41.g5 Na6 42.Bd6 Nb8 43.Kg3 Rd8 44.Bc7 Rc8 45.Bb6!? Re8 46.Bc5 After defending both pawns, White threatens to intrude with his rook along the a-file. His king is also ready to advance along the h2-b8 diagonal, thanks to White's previous structural achievements. 46...Nd7 (46...f6 47.gxf6 gxf6 48.Kg4 + -) 47.Bd6 Nb8

48.Ra1 +- Marin,Mihail

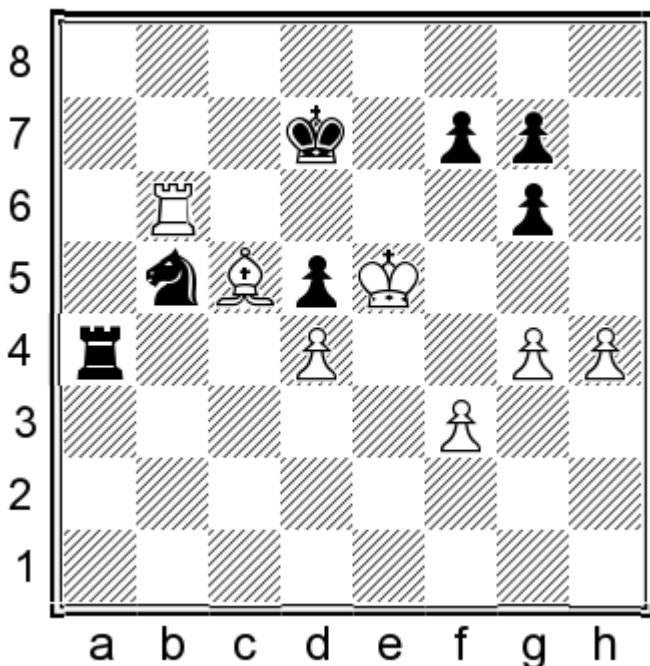
41.Ke3! Na6 42.Rb1! Rd7 43.b5 cxb5 44.Rxb5 [× Na6]

44...Kf8 45.Rb6 Even though Black has rid himself of the weak pawn on c6, his position did not improve any bit. His knight is in a delicate situation, being dominated by the bishop.

45...Ra7 46.Bd6+ Ke8 47.Kf4! f6



47...Nc7 48.Rc6 Nb5 (48...Ne6+ 49.Ke5 Kd7 50.Rb6 (× a3) 50...Ra1
(50...Ra4 51.Rb7+ +-) 51.Kxd5 +- (51.Rb7+? Kc6 52.Rxf7 Re1#)) 49.Bc5
Ra4 (49...Ra1 50.Rc8+ Kd7 51.Rf8 +-; 49...Rc7 50.Rb6 Nc3 51.Ke5 +-)
50.Rc8+ (50.Ke5 Kd7 51.Rb6



51...f6+!! 52.Kxd5 Nc3#) 50...Kd7 51.Rf8! Nxd4 52.Rxf7+ Ke8 (52...Ke6 53.Re7+ Kf6 54.g5#) 53.Rf8+ Kd7 54.Bxd4 Rxd4+ 55.Ke5 +- Marin,Mihail

48.g5! Increasing White's control over the dark squares. The same as in the line above, we notice that the bishop's strength ensures the king's advance.

48...Kf7 49.Rc6 Ra8 50.Rb6 Ra7 51.Rc6 Ra8 52.Kg4! Ke8 53.Rb6 Ra7 54.gxf6 gxf6 55.h5 +- gxh5+

55...Kf7 56.hxg6+ Kxg6 57.Be5 +-

56.Kxh5 Kf7 57.Rc6! Ra8 58.Kg4 Ke8 59.Kf5 Despite the reduced number of pawns, Black's position remains hopeless.

59...Kd7 60.Rb6 Nc7 61.Kxf6! Re8

61...Rb8 62.Bc5 +- Rodriguez Cespedes,Amador

61...Ne6 62.Ke5 Ng5 (62...Ra4 63.Bb4) 63.f4 Marin,Mihail

62.Bc5 Re3 63.f4 Ne8+ 64.Kg5 Rg3+ 65.Kf5 Re3 66.Rb7+ Kd8

66...Kc6 67.Re7 +-

67.Kg6 Rg3+ 68.Kf5 Re3 69.Ra7! Re1 70.Kg6 Re6+

70...Rg1+ 71.Kf7! Rg7+ 72.Kf8 +-

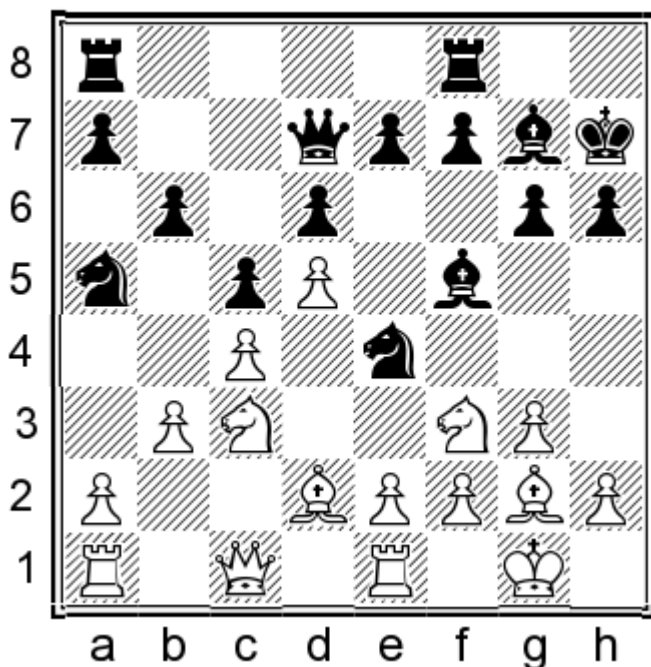
71.Kg5 Nd6 72.Bxd6 Rxd6 73.f5 1-0

The next game features a mirrored situation with respect to the lines with f5 from the comments to the game from the Chinese Championship. The bishop's domination over a misplaced knight will be far more relevant than the minor structural defects.

E63

Bukavshin, Ivan (2622) - Vocaturo, Daniele (2579)
Jerusalem 127/(192), 2015

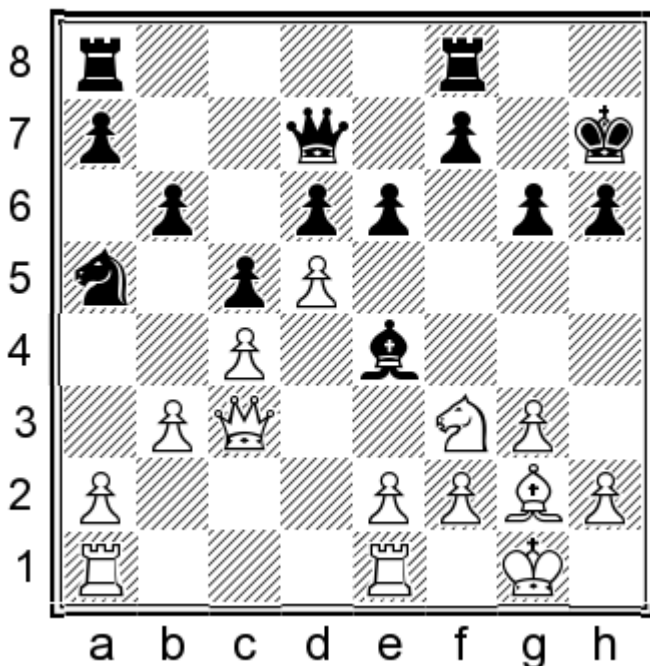
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 O-O 5.Bg2 d6 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.O-O Bf5 8.Bg5
h6 9.Be3 Qd7 10.d5 Na5 11.b3 c5 12.Bd2 b6 13.Qc1 Kh7 14.Re1 Ne4



15.Nxe4! Bxe4

15...Bxa1 16.Neg5+ hxg5 17.Nxg5+ Kg8 18.Qxa1 ±

16.Bc3 Bxc3 17.Qxc3 e6



18.Ne5! Heading straight for our thematic situation.

18...dxe5 19.Bxe4 exd5 20.Bxd5 I will partly agree with those arguing that strictly speaking, this game has a weak connection with our main theme. It is more obvious than in the previous examples that the bishop is very strong. The pawn on c4 (a light square) only ensures its stability on a dominant position.

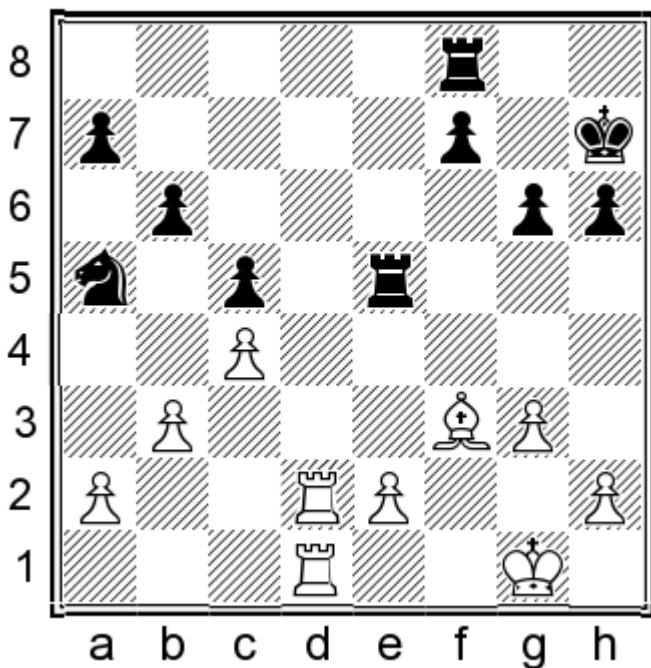
However, this example offers a logical transition to the next example. The resulting endgame is also an illustration of the limitations induced by having so many pawns on light squares.

20...Rae8 21.Rad1 Qc7 22.Rd2 e4

The knight is badly placed on a5, but 22...Nc6 allows White to set up the unchallenged control over the only open file: 23.Bxc6!? Qxc6 24.Red1 ± Indeed, as strong as the bishop might be, it also stands in the rooks' way.

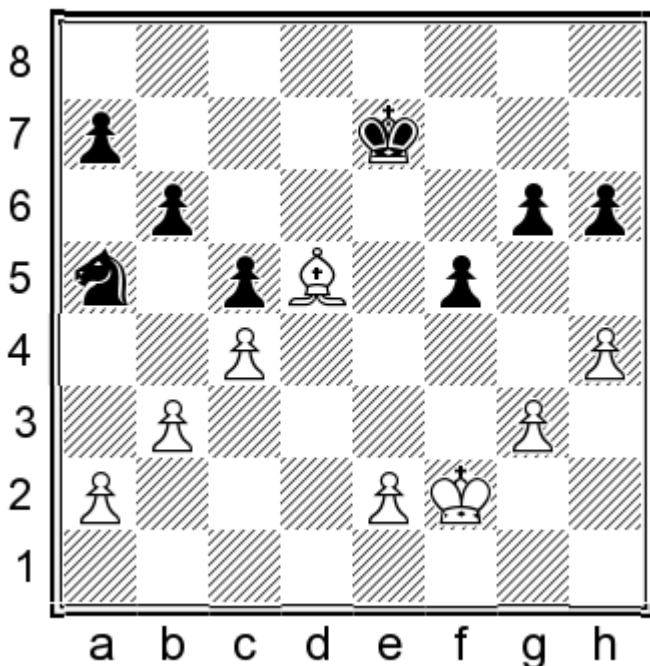
23.Red1 Qe5 Challenging White's control over the long dark diagonal is logical, but each exchange makes the knight's situation more problematic.

24.Qxe5 Rxe5 25.f3 exf3 26.Bxf3



An interesting position. If Black could transfer his knight to e5, his position would be at least not worse, since his structure is better. But the bishop's domination over the knight ensures White some advantage.

26...Rfe8 27.Rd8 R8e7 28.R1d7 Kg7 29.Kf2 Kf6 30.h4 Rxd7 31.Rxd7 Re7 32.Rxe7 Kxe7 33.Bd5 f5

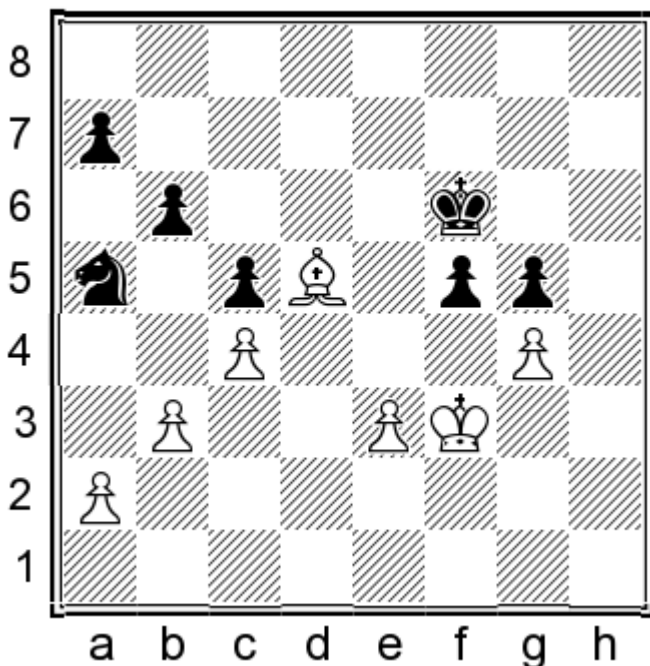


At first sight, White's advantage is decisive. Black will obviously not have the time to reach a drawn pawn ending with ...Kd6 and ...Nc6. With the minor pieces on board, this may seem even worse for Black than a pawn ending, since the bishop also restricts the black king.

However, things are not that one-sided. Black's more compact kingside structure and the potential target on c4 offer Black excellent drawing chances.

34.e4 This move rids Black from a potential weakness and deprives White from a dangerous candidate to promotion. Still, it requires certain accuracy from Black.

34.Kf3!?, preparing g4, was an important alternative. 34...g5 (34...Kd6 35.Kf4 followed by h5 wins.; 34...Kf6 35.g4 The most dangerous plan, aiming at creating a passed e-pawn. 35...fxg4+! (35...Ke5 36.gxf5 gxf5 37.e3 a6 38.Kg3 b5 39.h5 b4 40.Kf3 Kf6 41.Kf4 +-; 35...h5 36.gxh5 gxh5 37.Kf4 +-) 36.Kxg4 Ke5 37.Bf3 Kd4! Using the dark squares, weakened by the actual queenside pawn display. (37...Kf6 38.Be4 a6 39.Kf4 +-; 37...a6 38.e3 b5 39.Bd5 +-; 37...b5 38.cxb5 c4 39.bxc4 Nxc4 40.a4) 38.Kf4 g5+! Delaying the advance of the e-pawn by an essential tempo. 39.hxg5 hxg5+ 40.Kxg5 a6! Preparing to put the knight to work by attacking c4. 41.Kf4 b5 42.cxb5 axb5 43.e3+ Kc3 44.e4 Kd4 45.e5 c4 =) 35.hxg5 hxg5 36.e3 Kf6 37.g4



37...b5!! The only saving move. White either loses stability on d5 or gets a weakness on c4. (37...a6? is too slow. 38.gxf5 Kxf5 39.e4+ Ke5 40.Kg4 Kf6 41.Kh5 b5 42.Kg4 Kg6 43.e5 +-) 38.cxb5 (38.Kg3 bxc4 39.bxc4 Ke5 40.gxf5 Kxf5 41.Kf3 Ke5 42.Kg4 Nxc4!? 43.Bxc4 Ke4 44.Kxg5 Kxe3 =) 38...Ke5 39.Bg8 (39.Ba8 c4 = 40.b4 Nb3!) 39...fxg4+ 40.Kxg4 Ke4 = ;

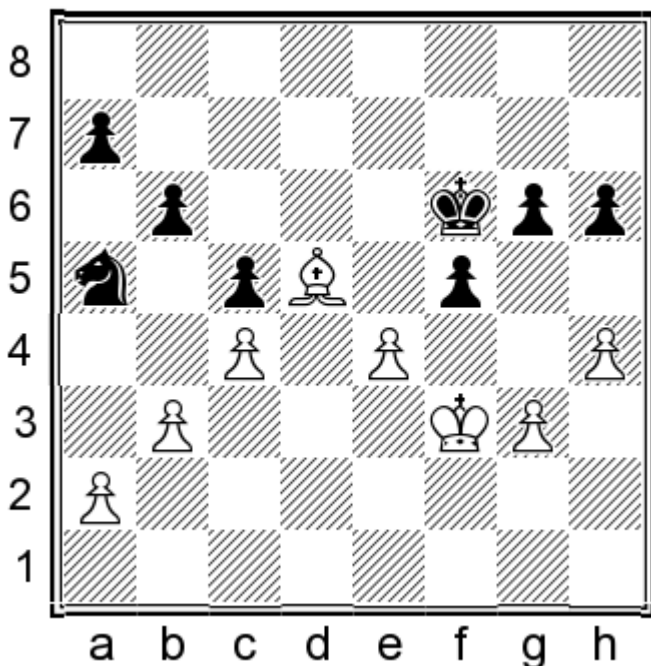
34.Ke3 g5 35.hxg5 hxg5 36.Kd3 Kf6 37.Kc3 Ke5 38.a3 (... b4) 38...b5 (38...Kd6 = ... Nc6) 39.e3 bxc4 40.bxc4 g4 =

34...Kf6!

34...fxe4 35.Ke3 Kf6 36.Kxe4 +-

35.Kf3

35.exf5 Kxf5 36.Kf3 Ke5 = With the king on the fifth rank, Black is safe. One important element is that with the bishop on d5 he has the threat ...b5.



35...Ke5? This mistake could have cost Black the game.

35...g5! = 36.Ke3 Ke5 37.exf5 Kxf5

36.exf5 gxf5

36...Kxf5 loses to 37.Be4+ forcing the king to retreat from the fifth rank.

37...Kf6 38.Kf4 g5+ (38...a6 39.Bd5 g5+ 40.hxg5+ hxg5+ 41.Ke4 + -) 39.Kg4!

Keeping Black's potential weakness on h6. (39.hxg5+ hxg5+ 40.Kg4 a6 =)

39...a6 40.Kh5 gxh4 41.gxh4 Kg7 42.Kg4! After having gained the access to f4, the king returns to the centre. 42...Kf6 43.Kf4 b5 44.Bd5 + -

37.g4? The second pawn exchange throws the win away.

37.Ba8! would have gradually brought Black in zugzwang. 37...a6 38.Ke3 b5

39.Bd5 h5 (39...b4 40.h5 Kf6 41.Kf4 + -; 39...bxc4 40.bxc4 does not change anything.) 40.Kd3 (40.Bf7 Kf6) 40...f4 (40...b4 41.Ke3 + -) 41.gxf4+ Kxf4

42.Kc3 Kg4 (42...Ke5 43.Bf3 + -; 42...bxc4 43.bxc4 Kg3 44.Kb2 winning the knight soon.) 43.cxb5 axb5 44.b4 + - cxb4+ 45.Kxb4 Nc4 46.Bxc4 bxc4 47.Kxc4 Kxh4 48.a4 and Black loses the pawn race by one tempo.

37...fxg4+ 38.Kxg4 b5 = 39.Kh5 bxc4 40.bxc4 Kd4 41.Kxh6 Nxc4 The knight finally returns into the game.

42.Bf3 Ne5 43.Bd1 c4 44.h5 c3 45.Kg5 1/2-1/2

The analysis of this ending offers us the possibility of widening the meaning

of a "bad bishop". Even though the bishop was very active, the presence of three queenside pawns on light squares, resulting into a target on c4 and the weakness of the adjacent dark squares, ensures Black a draw. Let us say that the bishop was good, but not as good as it seems!

The following game continues the discussion about the dominating bishop on d5. Moreover, I happened to hear from Artur his thoughts during the game.

A46

Jussupow, Artur (2610) - Karpov, Anatoly (2755)

London (m/5) 48/80, 1989

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 c5 4.e3 b6?! Karpov unexpectedly falls into an opening trap known since the game quoted below.

5.d5! exd5 6.Nc3 Be7

6...Bb7 7.Nxd5 Bxd5 8.Bxf6 Qxf6 9.Qxd5 Nc6 10.Bc4 Be7 11.O-O-O Rd8 12.Rd2 O-O 13.c3 Na5 14.Be2 Qe6 15.Rhd1 ± Petrosian,Tigran V - Kozma,Julius, Muenchen (ol) 1958

7.Nxd5

7.Bxf6?! Bxf6 8.Nb5!? O-O 9.Qxd5 Bxb2! 10.Rb1 Qf6 ∞

7...Bb7 8.Bxf6

8.Bc4 Nc6 ... Na5² (8...b5? 9.Nxe7 ± ; 8...Nxd5 9.Bxd5 Nc6 10.Bf4! ±)

8...Bxf6 9.c3 O-O 10.Bc4N²

10.Be2 d6 11.O-O Nd7!?² ... Be7, Nf6 (11...Na6 Picket,Jeroen 2470 - Farago,Ivan 2475, Wijk aan Zee 1989 - 45/(67))

10...a6

10...Nc6! 11.O-O!? (11.Nxf6+ Qxf6 12.Qxd7 Na5 13.Be2 Rad8©) 11...Na5 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.Bd5²

11.O-O

11.a4 Nc6 (11...b5? 12.axb5 axb5 13.Rxa8 Bxa8 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Bxb5 ±) 12.O-O Na5 13.Nxf6+ Qxf6 14.Bd5²

11...b5 12.Bb3

12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.Bd5 Nc6 14.Qd2 d6 15.Rfd1 Rfd8 16.a4!? ±

12...d6 13.Qd2 Nd7 14.Rfd1 Bxd5!

14...Be5!? 15.Ne1!? ... f4 Flear,Glenn; Jacobs,Byron (15.Nxe5 dxe5 16.Ne7+

Qxe7 17.Qxd7 Rfe8 18.Rd6 c4 19.Bc2 Qxd7 20.Rxd7 Bc6²⁾)

15.Bxd5 Rb8 16.Qc2 Nb6 17.Rd2 g6 18.Rad1 Qc7?!

¹18...Qe7

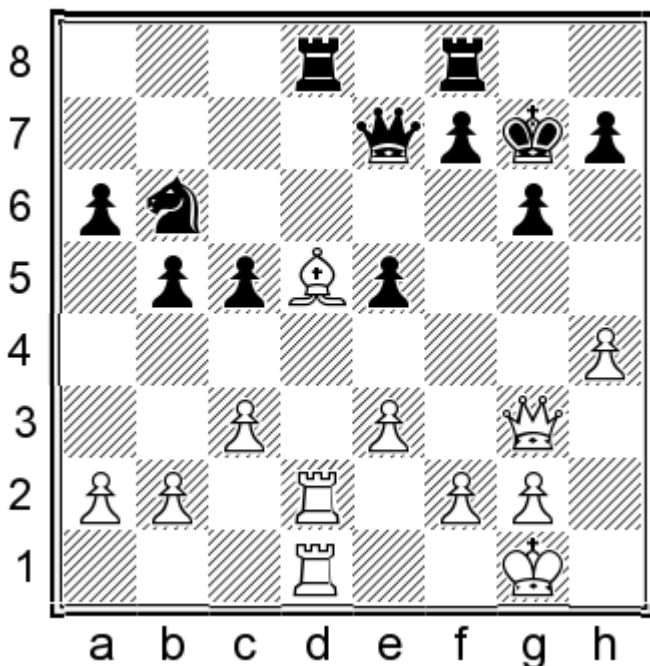
19.Qe4

19.h4!? Kg7 20.h5 (20.g3 h5 =) 20...Qe7 21.g3f ... Kg2

19...Kg7 20.h4 Qe7 21.Qf4

21.Qg4 h5 =

21...Be5 22.Nxe5 dxe5 23.Qg3 Rbd8



We have reached a similar structure as in the previous game. True, the knight is mobile, but not especially active. Besides, its exchange for the bishop (as after ...Na5-c6, Bc6 in that game) yields White dangerous initiative.

24.h5 Rd7

24...Rd6? 25.hxg6 ± hxg6? 26.Bxf7!

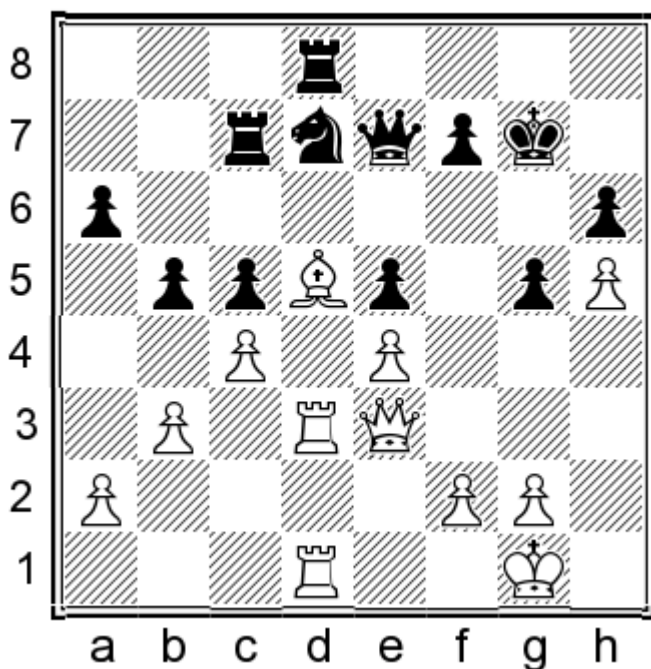
25.b3 Rfd8 26.e4² g5

26...Na8 27.Qe3f h6

27.Qe3 h6 28.c4 In order to consolidate his bishop, White needed to place two pawns on light squares.

28...Rc7 [... Nd7-f6 × h5]

29.Rd3!? Nd7†

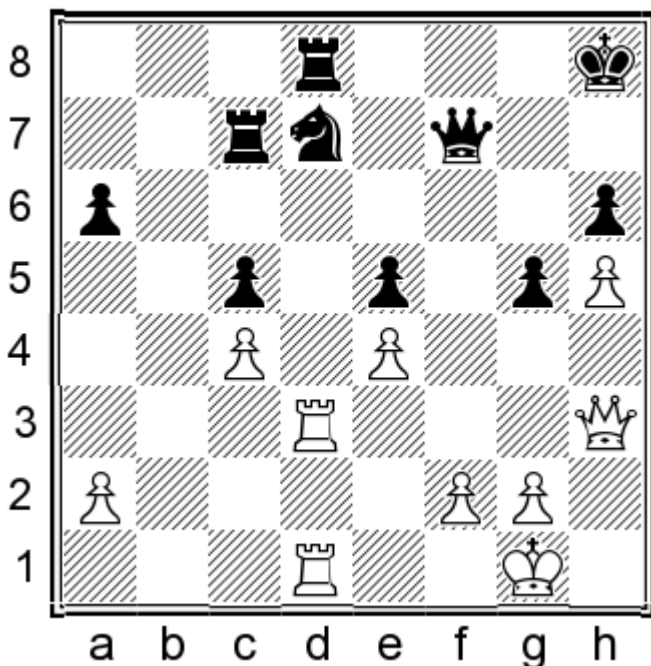


Artur told me that no matter how surprised he had been by Karpov's opening blunder, at this height he started being concerned about getting worse because of his potentially bad bishop. For this reason, he took the first opportunity to sacrifice the problematic piece.

30.Bxf7! † [!? Marin,Mihail]

30...Kxf7!

30...Qxf7? 31.Qh3→ × Nd7 Jussupow, Artur. Black's position is more dangerous than in the game, indeed, but the evaluation is not entirely clear here, either. 31...bxc4! Black needs to make some queenside progress as quickly as possible. (31...Kh8? 32.Rd6 Rf8 33.Rxh6+ Kg7 34.Rg6+ Kh8 35.f3 bxc4 36.Rdd6→) 32.bxc4 (32.Rd6 c3! would soon force White to dismantle his mechanism.) 32...Kh8



Evacuating the king from the exposed 7th rank, in order to enable a rook move along the 8th rank. 33.f3!? White tries to increase his pressure gradually. The last move takes measures against the intermediate move ...Rf8. (33.Rd6 Rf8 34.Rxh6+ Kg7 35.Rg6+ Kh8 36.f3 Rb7,, Now the intermediate exchange on c4 would prove useful.) 33...Rb7! (33...Qxc4? 34.Rd6 Qf7 35.Rxh6+ Kg7 36.Rg6+ Kh8 37.Rdd6→) 34.Rd6 Kg8 Black does not have useful moves, so evacuating the king from the h-file is best. 35.a4 a5 36.Qg4 Defending f4 in order to prepare for doubling rooks along the 6th rank. (36.Rxh6 Rdb8; 36.Rg6+ Kh7 37.Rdd6 Rb1+= 38.Kh2? Qf4+ 39.Qg3 Rh1+) 36...Kg7 (36...Kh7 37.R1d5 Kg7 38.Rg6+ Kh7 39.Rgd6 Rb1+ 40.Kh2 Rb7 41.Kh3 Rc7 42.Rg6→) 37.Rg6+ (37.Qf5 Qxf5 38.exf5 g4 39.fxf4 e4=) 37...Qxg6 38.Rxd7+ (38.hxg6 Nf6 39.Rxd8 Nxf6 40.fxf4 Rb4=) 38...Rbxd7 39.hxg6 Re7 40.Kh2 White's position remains more pleasant, but he can hardly generate a constructive plan, Marin,Mihail.

31.Qd2

31.Qh3 Qe6 32.Qxe6+ Kxe6 33.Rd6+ Ke7 34.Rxh6 Nf8 35.Rxd8 Kxd8 36.Rxa6 bxc4 37.bxc4 Ke7© ... Nh7-f6

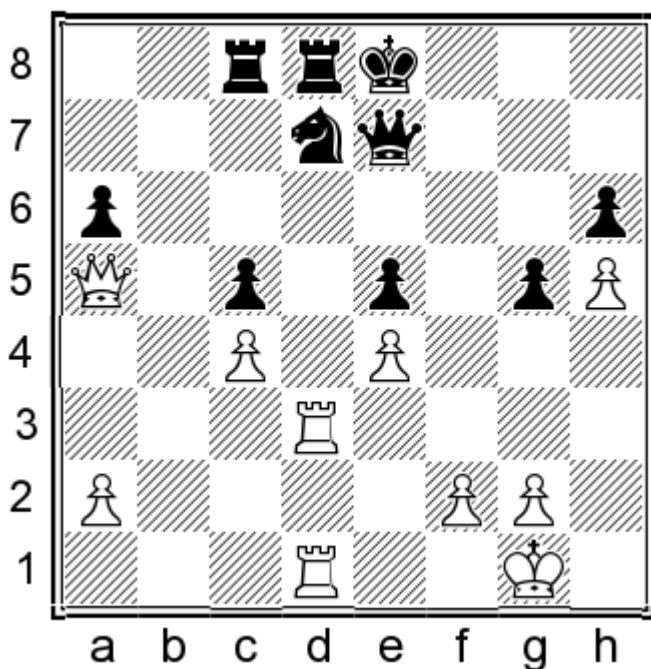
31...Ke8 32.Qa5 bxc4

32...Rc6 33.cxb5 axb5 34.Qxb5 Qe6 35.Rd5© f

33.bxc4

33.Rd6! ? Rcc8 ... 34...Nf8, 34...Nf6 ∞

33...Rcc8? [... Nf8]



34.Qa4! [... Rd6]

34...Rc7 In fact, only this is the real mistake.

34...Rb8 (... Rb6 × a6) 35.Qc6 (35.Qxa6 Nf6μ) 35...Rb6 36.Qc7 g4!? =
White's domination is enough only for ensuring adequate compensation for the knight, Marin, Mihail.

35.Qxa6 → Rb8 36.Qg6+ Kf8??

36...Kd8 37.Rd6 Qe8 (37...Kc8 38.Re6 Nf8 39.Rxe7 Nxg6 40.Re8+ Kb7
41.Rb1+ +-) 38.Qxh6 +- (38.Re6!? Qf8 39.Rf6 Qe8 40.Rf7 ΔKc8
41.Rfxd7 +-)

37.Rf3+ 1-0

In all these games, the bishop had a central square available (on either e5 or d5). This circumstance makes the notion of "bad bishop" very relative. While developing the discussion about the misplaced knight on a5, we will now switch to examples with a completely blocked centre.

The following game is one of the most famous attacking games played by Geller. We will focus on the sequence that is relevant for our main theme, though.

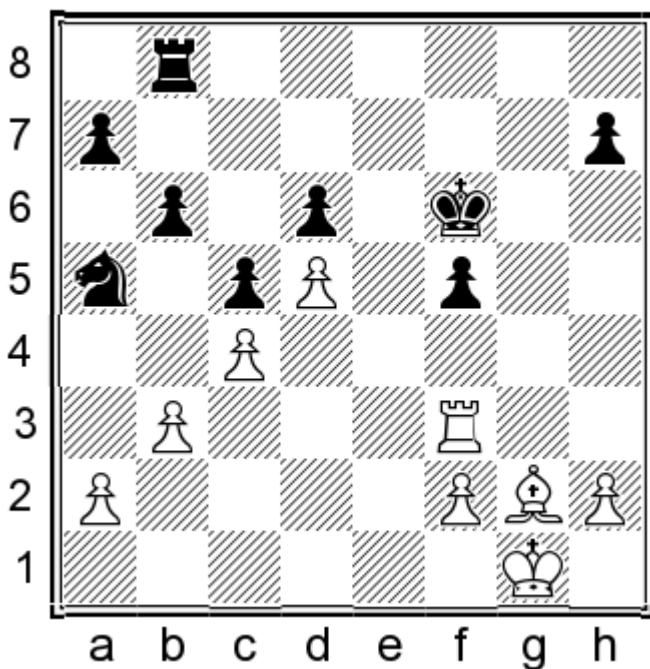
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.g3 O-O 5.Bg2 d6 6.O-O c5 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.d5
Na5 9.Nd2 e5 10.e4 Ng4 11.b3 f5 12.exf5 e4? 13.f6!! $\pm$ Nxf6 14.Ndxe4!
Nxe4 15.Nxe4 Bxa1 16.Bg5 Bf6 17.Nxf6+ Rxf6 18.Qa1 Kf7 19.Re1 [...
20.Qc3 b6 21.Re6!+-] 19...Rb8

19...h6 20.Bxh6 Bd7 21.Bg5 Qh8 22.Re4 Rf5 (22...Rf8 23.Rh4 Qg7 24.Bh6
Qg8 25.Bxf8 Qxf8 26.Rh7+ Ke8 27.Qe1++-) 23.Re7+ Kg8 24.Qxh8+ Kxh8
25.Bd2+-

20.Re3! b6 21.Rf3 Bf5 22.g4 Qh8 23.Bxf6!

23.Bh3 Rg8!

23...Qxf6 24.Qxf6+ Kxf6 25.gxf5 gxf5

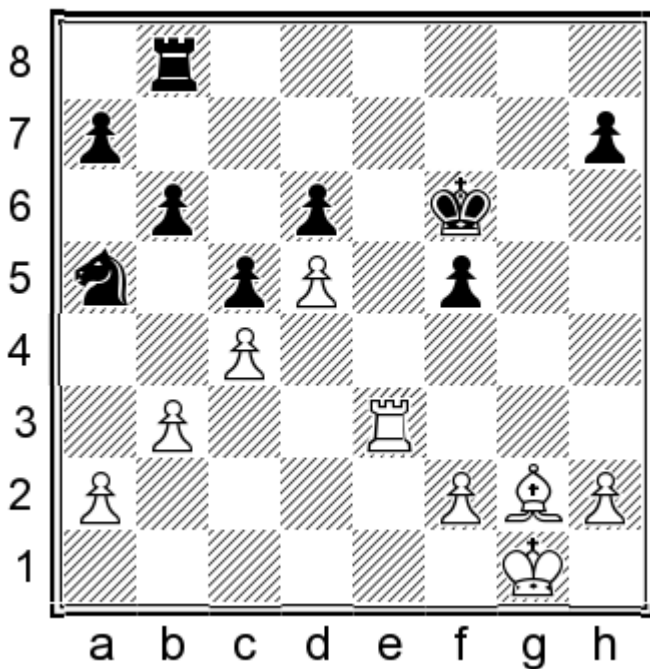


This is the relevant position for our general discussion. The pawn on d5 plays a double part. The first thing coming up to mind is that it restricts the bishop. On the other hand, it also prevents the knight from returning into the game via the most favourable path with ...Nc6. However, would the bishop not fulfil the same job in the absence of the pawn? It would, indeed, but now the bishop is free for other duties, taking place very far from the knight. We will see that if

one has a space advantage, the bishop only needs one or two good diagonals in order to be a strong piece.

26.Re3! + - As strange as it may seem, this natural move spoils White's advantage.

White should have immediately activated his bishop with 26.Bh3! Rg8+ The only way to defend f5. 27.Kh1! Probably missed by Geller. (27.Kf1?! is less clear. 27...Rg5 28.Re3 Rh5 29.f4 Nb7 ± × Bh3) 27...Rg5 28.Re3 Rh5 (28...Rg6 29.f4 Nb7 30.Re6+ Kf7 31.Bxf5 + -) 29.Bf1! This is the point! 29...Kf7 (29...Nb7 30.Re8 + -) 30.Bd3 The bishop has found another good diagonal. 30...Nb7 31.f4 Rh4 (31...Nd8 32.Kg2 Kf8 White could play for zugzwang or, more directly 33.Rh3 + - winning the pawn on f5.) 32.Bxf5 Rxf4 33.Bxh7 + - Marin,Mihail



26...Nb7 Velimirovic misses his chance to activate his knight, in the same way as Vocaturo did.

26...b5! 27.Re6+ Kg5 28.cxb5 Rxb5 29.Bf1 Rb4 30.Rxd6 c4 31.bxc4 Nxc4²

27.Re6+ Kf7

27...Kg5!?

28.Bf3! + - Heading for the h5-e8 diagonal and preventing Black from fighting for the e-file.

28...Rg8+ 29.Kf1 Kf8 30.Bh5 Rg5 31.Re8+ Kg7 32.Re7+ Kh6 33.Rxb7
 Rxb5 34.Rxa7 Rxh2 35.Rd7 Kg5 36.Rxd6 Kf4 37.Ke2 b5 38.cxb5 Ke5
 39.Rd7 Rh4 40.a3 Rh3 41.f3 Kd4 42.b6 Rh2+ 43.Ke1 Rh1+ 44.Kf2 Rh2+
 45.Ke1 Rh1+ 46.Kf2 Rh2+ 47.Kg3 Rb2 48.b7 Rxb3 49.a4 c4 50.a5 c3 51.a6
 Rb6 52.Rc7 1-0

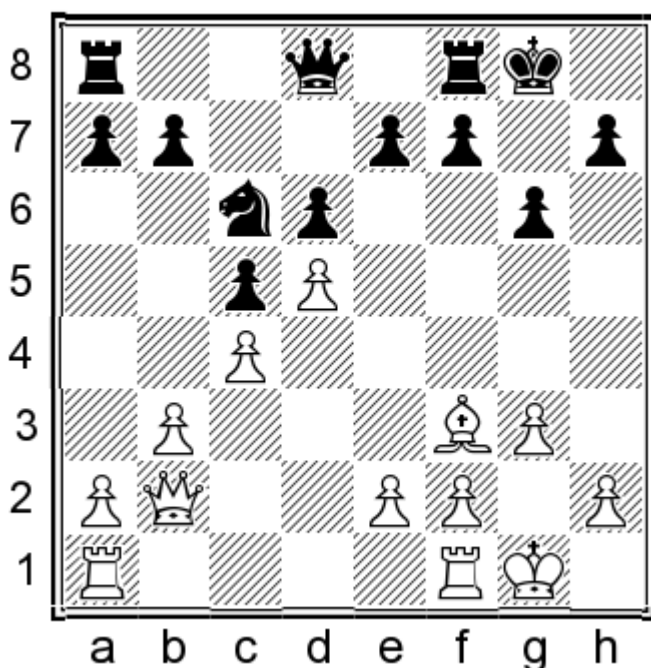
E60

Keres, Paul - Szabo, Laszlo

Hastings, 1954

In this game the bishop had a clear target on f5. Things will be different in the next example, but the bishop will prove its superiority over the knight on the rim all the same.

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.b3 Bg7 4.Bb2 O-O 5.g3 d6 6.d4 c5 7.Bg2 Ne4 8.O-O
 Nc6 9.Nbd2 Nxd2 10.Qxd2 Bg4 11.d5 Bxb2 12.Qxb2 Bxf3 13.Bxf3



13...Na5? Overestimating Black's queenside counterplay.

13...Ne5!

14.h4! The simple attack initiated by this move is impossible to parry. It is also instructive that Black will have to weaken the h3-c8 diagonal, turning the bishop into a terrible attacking unit.

14...b5

14...h5 15.Be4 (15.g4 hxg4 16.Bxg4 (Keres,Paul) 16...e5! 17.dxe6 Qxh4)
15...a6 (15...b5 16.cxb5 Qb6 17.Bd3 Not a bad bishop, is it?) 16.f4 f5 17.Bg2
b5 18.cxb5 axb5 19.e4 + - The bishop will play a decisive part soon.

14...e5 15.dxe6 fxe6 16.Rad1 + - Black cannot cope with the weaknesses on
e6, d6 and (after h5) on g6. One important element is that he is behind in
development, too.

These lines are relevant for the fact that the bishop's latent strength at this
stage inhibits Black's desirable reactions on the kingside or in the centre.

15.cxb5 Qb6

15...Rb8 16.a4 a6 17.b4 Nc4 18.Qc3 axb5 19.axb5 Keres,Paul

16.a4 a6 17.h5

17.b4 Nc4 18.Qc3 axb5 Keres,Paul

17...axb5

17...g5 18.b4 Nc4 19.Qc1! Keres,Paul

18.hxg6

18.Kg2!? ... hg6

18...hxg6?!

18...fxg6!? looks ugly, but might have offered better chances for survival.

19.Kg2 ... Rh1. Optically, Black has made considerable queenside progress,
but the things happening on the kingside are more important.

19...f6 Weakening both g6 and e6. The bishop is about to come to life.

20.Rh1 Kg7 21.axb5 As seen below, the knight is hanging a bit now.

21...Qxb5

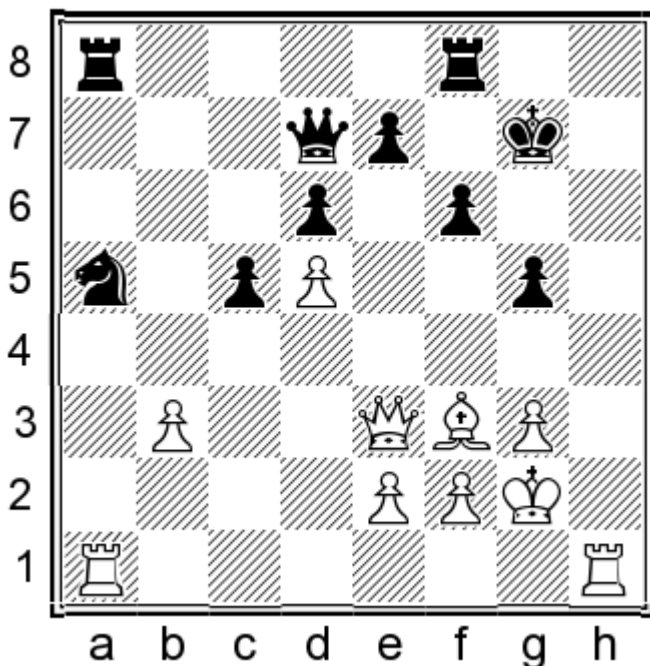
21...Rh8 22.Rxh8 Rxh8 23.Qc3 Nb7 24.Qe3 + -

22.Qd2! g5 A forced weakening of f5 and h5.

22...Rh8 23.Rxh8 Kxh8 24.Qh6+

23.Qe3 Qd7

23...Ra7 24.Qe4 + -



24.Bg4! Not the only winning move, but the most thematic one. The bishop joins the battle with gain of time.

24...Qc7

24...Qxg4 25.Qxe7+ Rf7 26.Rh7+ Kxh7 27.Qxf7+

25.Bf5 What a comfortable square for a mighty bishop!

25...Kf7

25...Rh8 26.Rxh8 Rxh8 27.Rxa5! Qxa5 28.Qxe7+ mating soon, Keres,Paul

26.Rh7+ Ke8 27.Rah1 Qb7 28.Rh8

28.Rh8 Qxd5+ (28...Rxh8 29.Rxh8+ Kf7 30.Qe6+ +-) 29.Be4 +- -

1-0

I must admit that I have chosen a slightly provocative title for this article. None of the bishops in the games above could be ever considered as "bad". However, the presence of an important number of own pawns on squares of the same colour to those on which the bishop is acting induces some important elements. That I intended to highlight.

In many cases, the pawns could actually help the bishop, especially with the participation of a major piece. The last two examples also induce the thought that the player with a space advantage almost never has a bad bishop. Bishops

are usually able to find paths for activity in such cases.

The Search For The Brazilian Immortal

Rafael Leitão



- **Country:** Brazil
- **Born:** 1979
- **Rating:** 2592
- **Peak rating:** 2652
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 1998

Over the board tournaments are still a rare occurrence in Brazil and in South America in general as I write these lines. I hope that I will soon be able to annotate the games played recently in South America, but as this is not possible I will do something that is also quite pleasant - look at the past. Actually, I already did that in my last article, where I showed the best games of the Brazilian legend Henrique Mecking. In this article I will show some of my favourite games from other Brazilian chess players. Who knows, maybe by the end of this article we will find the "Brazilian Immortal"? I will leave Mecking's games out of contention since they were covered in greater detail before. I will just say that Mecking's victory against Korchnoi in their 1974 match is the game I like very much.

Recently I hosted a live transmission with my former coach, IM Jefferson Pelikian, and we analysed his "evergreen", an attacking game that would make anyone proud. I started to think of other great games that made big impression on me. I will be showing some of them in this article. Of course many games will be forgotten and this list is completely subjective, but I hope the reader will admire the mix of brutal chess tactics and subtle positional moves that we are about to see.

Let's start with the game that originated the idea for this article.

I was an 11 year old boy when the tournament was played. I was (and I still am) deeply impressed by this game. Gurevich was the World Junior Champion at the time.

B76

Gurevich, Ilya (2495) - Pelikian, Jefferson (2255)
Maringa, 1991

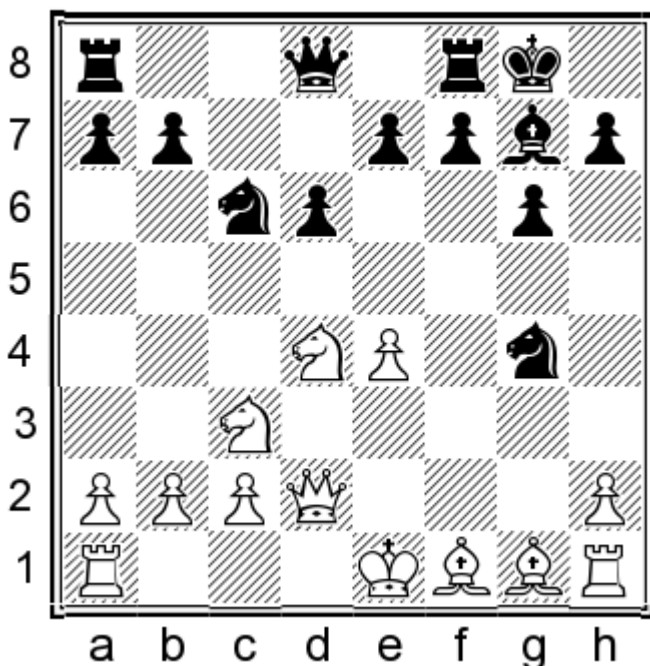
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 Most "Pelika" students played the Dragon (not me, though).

6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 O-O 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.g4 I like this move very much since I was a kid. Maybe it's because Nunn's "Beating The Sicilian" was one of my favourite books.

9...Bxg4?! This is a dubious sacrifice, but it's enterprising.

10.fxg4 Nxd4 11.Bg1

11.Nb3²; 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bf4²



11...e6! Opening the path for the queen.

12.Nf3

12.h4 is more precise. This move is useful both to prevent Qh4 and to prepare the typical rook lift Rh1-h3.

12...Rc8 13.Qg2? This is a serious mistake. It's not a good idea to remove the queen from the queenside.

13.h3

13...Nge5?!

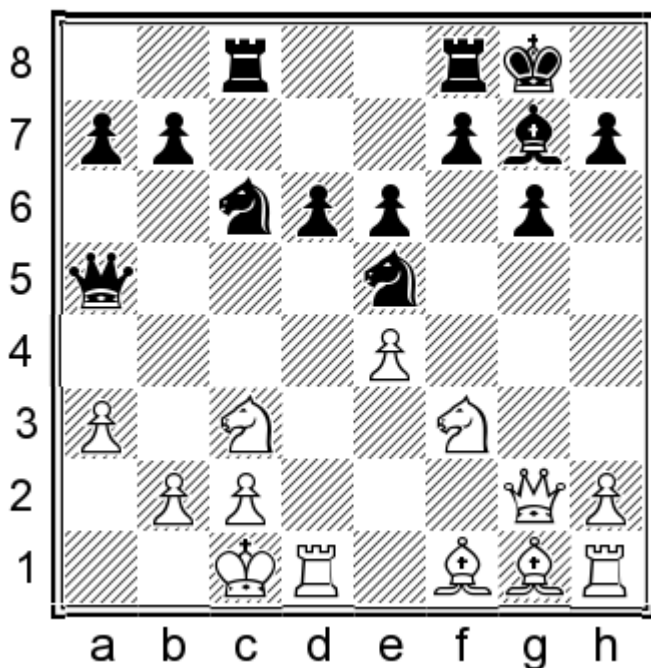
13...Qa5! This move would create big problems for White, exploiting the absence of the queen. 14.Nd2 (14.Qxg4 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Qxc3+- + and Black

wins.) 14...Bxc3 15.bxc3 Qxc3 16.Rc1 Ne3 and White is in trouble: 17.Qg3 (17.Bxe3 Qxe3+μ) 17...Qb2 18.Rb1 Nxc2+ 19.Kd1 Qxa2 20.Qb3 N2b4 Black has a big advantage with 5 pawns for the piece.

14.O-O-O

14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.h4! was better, preparing Rh1-h3.

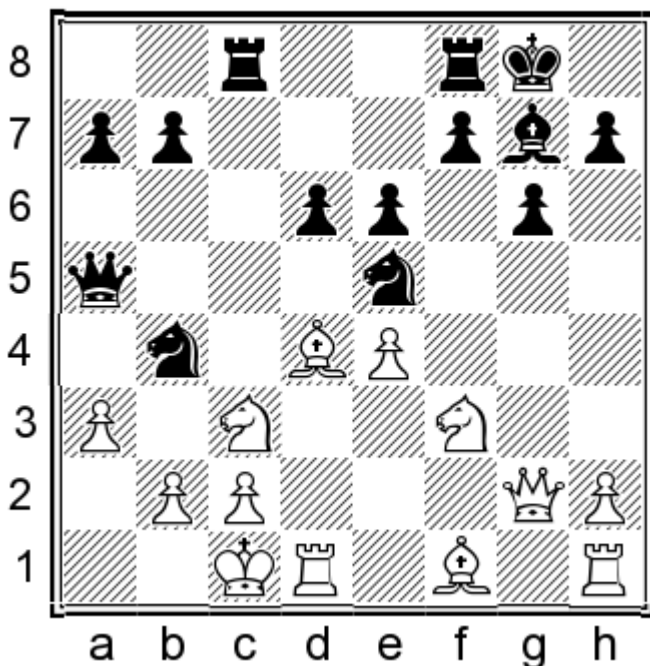
14...Qa5 15.a3?!



With so many pieces around White's king, it's no surprise that a tactical solution is found. What I will never forget, though, is the 15 move variation that Pelikian showed me after playing this game to justify the sacrifice!

15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Qf3

15...Nb4!! 16.Bd4?!



16.Nxe5 Bxe5 17.axb4 Qa1+ 18.Kd2 Qxb2μ;

16.axb4 - this is the main line of the combination. 16...Qa1+ 17.Nb1 Nxf3 18.Qxf3 Qxb2+ 19.Kd2 Rxc2+ 20.Ke1 Qxb4+ 21.Nd2 It's clear that Black's position is better and there are plenty of interesting moves. But let's continue with a forcing line: 21...Bh6 (21...a5!?) 22.Qd3 Rxd2 23.Rxd2 Bxd2+ 24.Qxd2 Qxe4+ 25.Kf2 Rc8 (25...Qxh1? 26.Bg2) 26.Bg2 Qf5+ 27.Kg3 Rc2 28.Qe3 h5 This was Pelikian's intended variation and to this day I am still impressed with it. Alas, the old adagio "long variation, wrong variation" is true here as usual. 29.h3? This was the main point: (29.Bf3! This more or less defends.) 29...h4+ 30.Kh2 Rc3! 31.Qxc3 Qf4+ An incredible variation that was used to justify the whole combination.

16...Rxc3!! A variation on a well known theme: the Rc3 sacrifice in the Sicilian.

17.Bxc3

17.axb4 Qa1+ 18.Kd2 Nxf3+ 19.Qxf3 Rxf3 20.Rxa1 Bxd4- +;

17.bxc3 Nxf3 18.Qxf3 Qxa3+ 19.Kd2 Bxd4μ

17...Na2+ 18.Kd2 Nxc3 19.bxc3 Bh6+ 20.Ke1

20.Ke2 Qxc3- +

20...Qxc3+ 21.Nd2 Bxd2+ 22.Rxd2 Nf3+ 23.Kd1 Nxd2

23...Nxd2 24.Qxd2 Qf3+

0-1

This is surely one of the top 5 Brazilian masterpieces.

As I thought about memorable games to show in this article I remembered this somewhat mysterious game that has been published in several sources.

C50

De Oliveira Gomes, J.M. - Netto, Joaquim
Rio de Janeiro, 1942

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Bc5 4.Bc4 d6 5.d3 Bg4 6.Be3?!

6.h3

6...Nd4 7.Bxd4 Bxd4 8.h3 Bh5

8...Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nf6 =

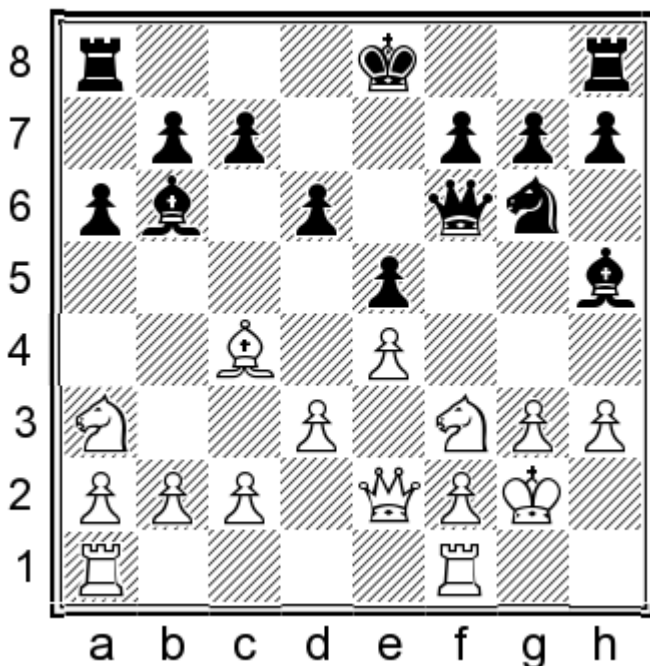
9.Nb5?!

9.g4 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 Bg6 =

9...Bb6 10.Qe2 Ne7 11.O-O? A big mistake. The king will be under fire now.

11.O-O-O

11...a6 12.Na3?! Ng6 13.g3 Qf6 14.Kg2 White probably thought that nothing serious would happen and that he would have time to improve the knight with Bb3, Nc4 and so on. But there was no time for that, thanks to Black's fascinating next move.



14...Rg8!! 15.c3 Nh4+! The point of the mysterious rook move.

16.gxh4 g5! - and Black is winning.

17.Rg1 Bxf3+ 18.Qxf3 gxh4+

18...gxh4+ 19.Kh2 Qxf3 20.Rxg8+ Ke7 21.Rxa8 Qxf2+ 22.Kh1 Qf3+ 23.Kh2 Qg3+ 24.Kh1 Qxh3#

0-1

Chess is not only tactics. This game by Sunye, beating the legendary Timman, always impressed me. The reader will soon understand why.

A28

Sunye Neto, Jaime (2475) - Timman, Jan (2655)

Wijk aan Zee, 1982

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.e3 Bb4 5.Nd5 e4 6.Nxb4 Nxb4 7.Ng5

Sunye's speciality at the time.

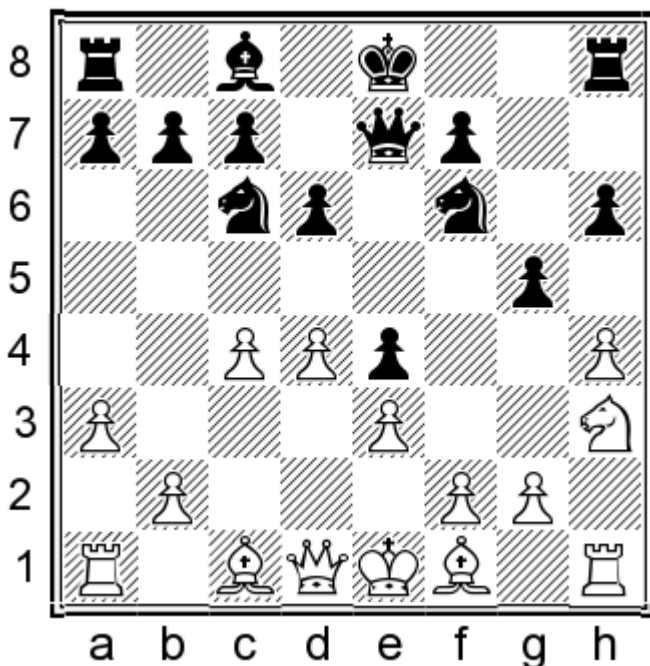
7.Nd4 is the move theory recommends.

7...Qe7 8.a3 Nc6

8...Nd3+! 9.Bxd3 exd3,,

9.d4 d6 10.h4 h6 11.Nh3 g5!? The whole opening was very strange. The

knights were moving in an erratic way at the edge of the board. But White's knight journey is not over.

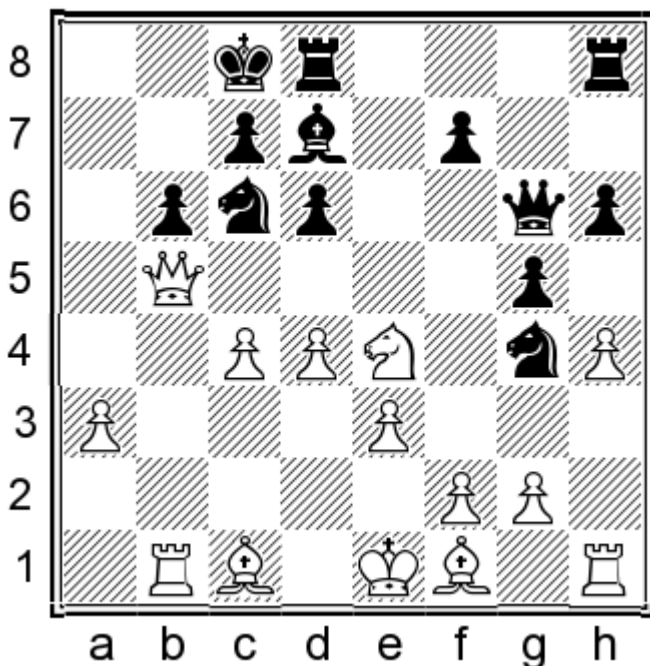


12.Ng1!! Brilliant! White prepares the return of the knight with Ne2-c3 and activation of the h1- rook even though it is still in the initial square. Since there is no central tension White can survive with all the pieces at their initial positions on move 12!

12...Bg4 13.Qa4 O-O-O 14.b4f It turns out that Black's king is in much more danger than White's. Life is really unfair sometimes.

14...a6 15.b5 axb5 16.Qxb5 Bd7 17.Rb1 b6 18.Ne2 Ng4? 19.Nc3 Qf6 20.Rb2

20.Nxe4! Qg6



21.c5! Qxe4 22.cxb6→ and White has a winning attack even though he is underdeveloped and his king is in the centre.

20...Nb8 21.Qb3 White managed to win after some adventures. I will leave the rest of the game without comments.

21...Bc6 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.cxd5 gxh4 24.Qc2 Qf5 25.Rxh4 h5 26.Rxb6 Rde8 27.Rb2 Qxd5 28.Rb5 Qa8 29.Be2 d5 30.Rc5 Qb7 31.Bd2 Nf6 32.Ba5 Re7 33.Rf4 Ne8 34.Rf5 Nd6 35.Rfxd5 Rh6 36.Re5 Rd7 37.Rxh5 Rxh5 38.Rxh5 Nc6 39.Bg4 f5 40.Bxf5 Nxf5 41.Rxf5 Re7 42.Bc3 Qa6 43.Rf8+ Nd8 44.Bb4 Re6 45.d5 Re5 46.Qc6 1-0

I was reminded of Sunye's masterpiece when I saw this game played in the Online Nations Cup last year. It took me a while to understand it and I couldn't believe how White managed to create such an attack even without development. It's also a fascinating game.

D03

Artemiev, Vladislav (2769) - Vidit, Santosh Gujrathi (2636)
chess.com (Internet-rapid) 144/116, 2020

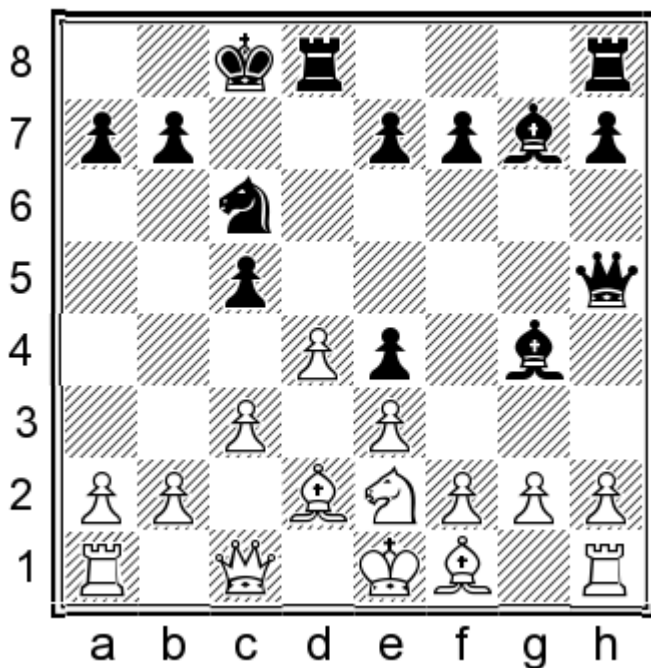
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Bg5 Ne4 4.Bh4 Qd6 5.Nbd2 Qh6!? 6.Qc1 g5 7.Nxe4 dxe4 8.Bxg5 Qh5 9.Ng1! ± The good old Ng1 after a strange opening. No worries.

9...Bg7 10.c3 c5N

10...e5 11.dxe5 Bxe5 12.Bf4 Nc6 13.e3 Bxf4 14.exf4 Be6 15.Qe3 O-O-O
16.g3 Rhe8 ∞ Vlasov, Sergey - Beynerovich, Alexander, Russia 1998

11.Bd2! Another curious move. Instead of trying to develop, White retreats another piece. But the idea is to play e3 and everything is solid.

11...Nc6 12.e3 Bg4 13.Ne2 O-O-O Black played in an enterprising way, sacrificing, developing, castling. The result? He is going to suffer the attack from White's underdeveloped army. Yes, life is really unfair.



14.b4!! cxb4 15.cxb4 Kb8 16.b5! Qxb5 17.Rb1 Qd5 18.Nc3 Qe6 19.Na4
Finally White's pieces start playing. No need to castle or to move the bishop from f1. It is a long range piece, afterall.

19...Ka8 20.Rxb7! Qd6

20...Kxb7 21.Nc5+-

**21.Nc5 Nxd4 22.Rxa7+! Kxa7 23.Qa3+ Kb6 24.Qb4+ Kc6 25.Qb7+ Kxc5
26.Bb4#** A wonderful game. 1-0

After this brief digression, let's go back to the search for the "Brazilian Immortal". Milos is also my former coach and he has some great games, full of creative ideas. This is one of my favorites. Forget engine evaluation and computer chess. The idea played in this game comes from a human mind,

with all its brilliancies and faults.

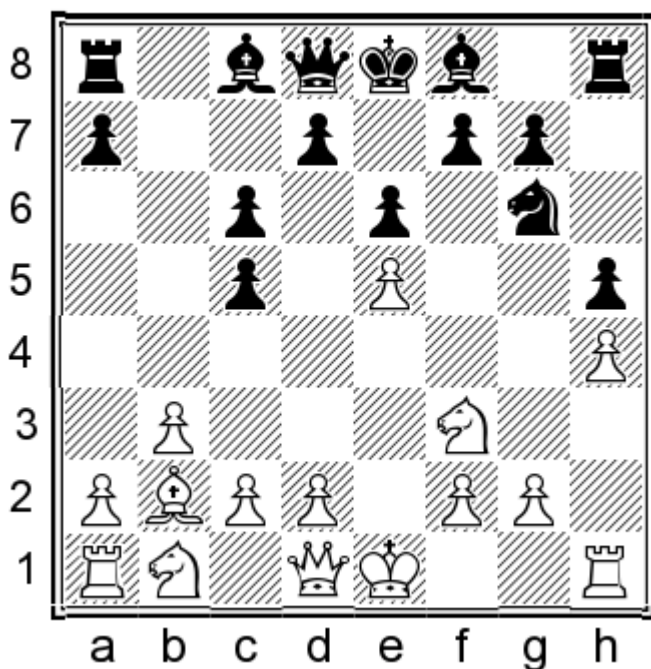
B30

German, Pablo (2415) - Milos, Gilberto (2605)

Buenos Aires 70/139, 1997

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6 4.Bxc6 bxc6 5.b3 Ne7 6.Bb2 Ng6 7.h4 h5 8.e5

A typical structure in the Rossolimo. Now comes Milos' shocking idea.



8...c4!! The computer is not so optimistic, but his move will always be a "!!" in my heart. It became famous and I recall my friend GM Ruben Felgaer using it in a similar position to win a very good game.

9.bxc4 Rb8 10.Bc3 c5© The idea of the sacrifice is simply to improve the scope of the c8 bishop.

11.d3 Be7 12.Nbd2 f5 13.exf6?! gxf6 14.Qe2 Kf7 15.O-O Bb7

15...Rg8©

16.Rfe1 Qc7 17.Qe3 Rbg8 18.Ne4 e5 19.Bb2 d6 20.c3? White is not in time to play cd4.

20.g3

20...Nf4-+ , The attack is decisive.

**21.Ng3 f5 22.d4 Nxg2! 23.Kxg2 f4 24.Qd3 fxg3 25.dxe5 dxe5 26.Qf5+ Ke8
27.fxg3 Rh6 28.Qxe5 Qxe5 29.Rxe5 Rhg6 30.Kf2 Rxc3 31.Ne1 Rh3 32.Ba3
Kf7 33.Ke2 Rxh4 34.Bxc5 Rh2+ 35.Kd1 Bxc5 36.Rxc5 Rd8+ 37.Kc1 Be4
38.Nf3 Rc2+ 39.Kb1 Rd1# 0-1**

Vescovi is from my generation and we grew up playing against each other and developed a friendship. I remember he was very happy with this game at the time. Who wouldn't be?

B53

**Vescovi, Giovanni (2455) - Gschwendtner, Stanislav (2270)
Groningen, 1994**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 I always considered this an interesting move and suitable for those who want an aggressive weapon with less theory.

4...Nc6 5.Bb5

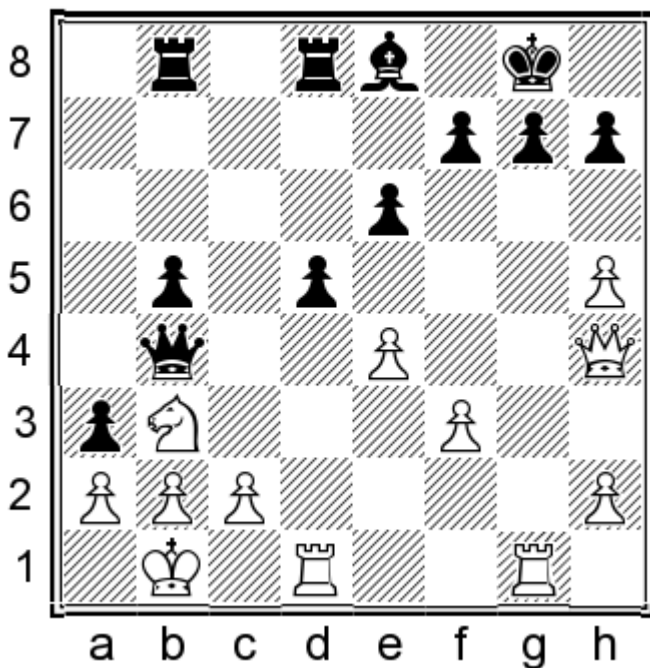
5.Qe3!? is a modern try.

**5...Bd7 6.Bxc6 Bxc6 7.Nc3 Nf6 8.Bg5 e6 9.O-O-O Be7 10.Rhe1 O-O
11.Kb1 Qc7**

11...h6 12.Bh4 Re8 Kasparov played like this in his famous win against Svidler, so it must be the best way. Svidler, Peter 2713 - Kasparov, Garry 2812, Linares 1999 - 75/178

12.Qd2 Rfd8 13.Nd4 Be8 14.f3 Rab8 15.g4 b5 16.Nce2! White prepares the knight ride to the kingside. Black's position is already dangerous.

**16...a5 17.Ng3 a4 18.Nh5 Nxe5 19.gxh5 Bxg5 20.Qxg5 Qc5 21.Qh4 a3
22.Rg1 Qb4 23.Nb3 d5** Now Vescovi executed a wonderful combination that required precise calculation.



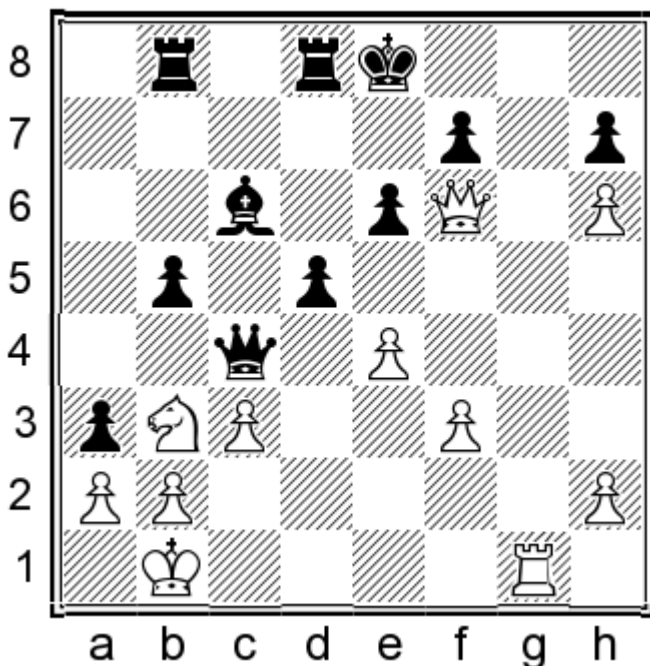
24.Rxg7+!! Kxg7 25.h6+ Kf8 26.Qf6! White threatens Rg1 followed by Rg8 so Black must try to run away with the king.

26...Bc6 27.c3! An important move that had to be calculated beforehand.

27.Rg1? Ke8 and the queen will go back to defence.

27...Qc4 28.Rg1 Qd3+

28...Ke8 this is the main line of the combination.



29.Rg7! Qd3+ 30.Kc1 Qe3+ 31.Kc2 Qf2+ 32.Nd2 Kd7 33.Qxf7+ Kd6
34.Qc7+ Kc5 35.b4# - an 11 move long combination finishing with a pawn
checkmate!

29.Ka1 axb2+ 30.Kxb2 Qe2+ 31.Ka1 1-0

El Debs is a solid positional player but in this game he manages to trick such a
tactician as Vachier-Lagrave.

A30

El Debs, Felipe de Cresce (2497) - Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2699)
Gibraltar, 2012

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.Nc3 g6 6.O-O Bg7 7.d4 cxd4
8.Qxd4 Nc6 9.Qh4

9.Qf4 is more common.

9...h6 10.Nd4

10.Qf4 It would be better to remove the queen from future troubles.

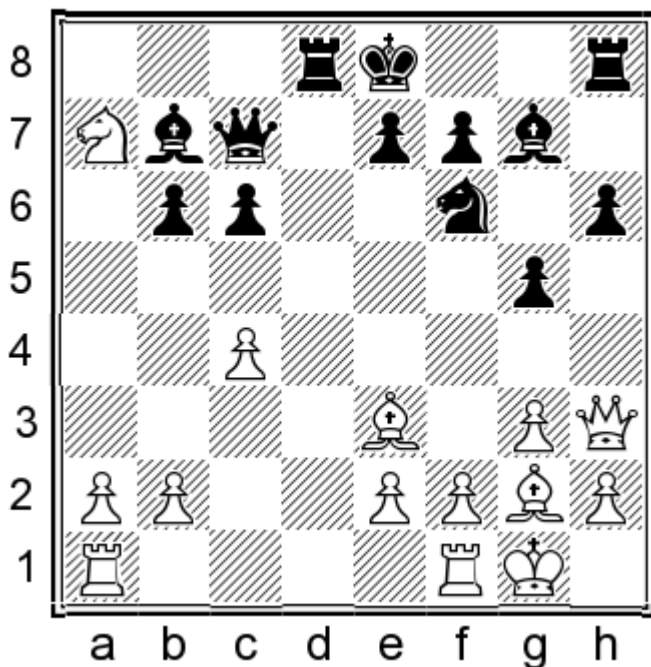
10...g5! 11.Nxc6 dxc6 12.Qh3 Qd4?!

12...O-O and Black's position is OK.

13.Nb5! Qe5 14.Be3 Rd8? This is a blunder.

14...O-O 15.Nd4 Bc8 16.Nxc6 Qc7 17.g4 Bb7 18.Nd4 Bxg2 19.Qxg2
Qxc4=

15.Nxa7 Qc7



16.a4! White is in time to play a5 and save the knight.

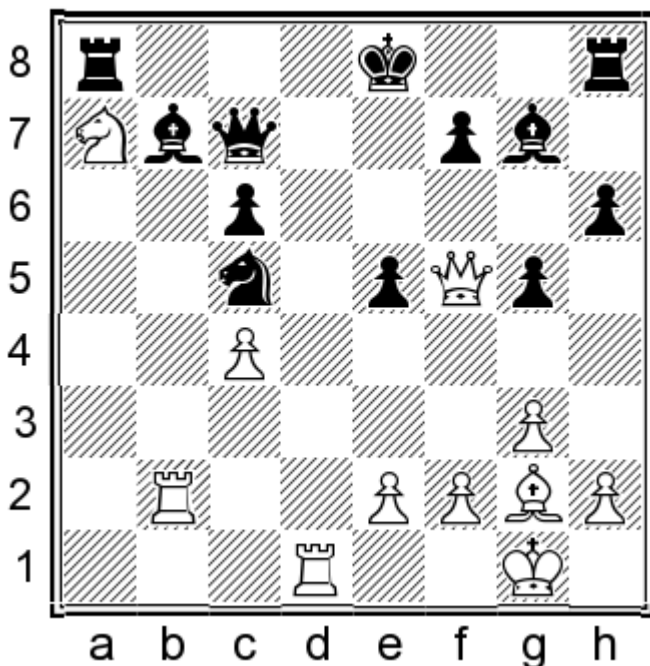
16...Ra8?

16...Ba8 17.a5 Qxa7 18.Bxb6 Qb8 19.Bxd8 g4 20.Qh4 Qxd8 White is better,
but Black can still fight.

17.a5 bxa5 18.Qf5! The queen is finally back.

18...e5 19.b4! axb4 20.Bc5 b3 21.Rfd1 Black's king is stuck in the middle of
the board.

21...b2 22.Ra2 Nd7 23.Rxb2 Nxc5



24.Rxb7! Nxb7 25.Bxc6+ Kf8 26.Rd7 Qxd7 27.Qxd7 Rxa7 28.Qe8# 1-0

Fier already has a legendary status for the Brazilian fans, who admire his risk-taking approach and his daring style. Some will be surprised that this masterpiece is such a technical and subtle game. I used some of his published analysis to understand this game better.

D17

**Fier, Alexandr (2566) - Wang, Yue (2709)
Khanty-Mansiysk (m/1), 2011**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5 e6 7.f3 c5 8.e4 Bg6 9.Be3 cxd4 10.Qxd4 Qxd4 11.Bxd4 Nfd7 12.Nxd7 Nxd7 13.Bxc4 Rc8 14.Bb3!N This was Fier's novelty.

14.Bb5 a6 15.Bxd7+ Kxd7 = Topalov, Veselin 2805 - Anand, Viswanathan 2787, Sofia (m/8) 2010 - 108/(103)

14.Be2 a6 15.Rc1 f6 16.O-O Bc5 = Grischuk, Alexander 2746 - Wang, Yue 2709, Ningbo 2011

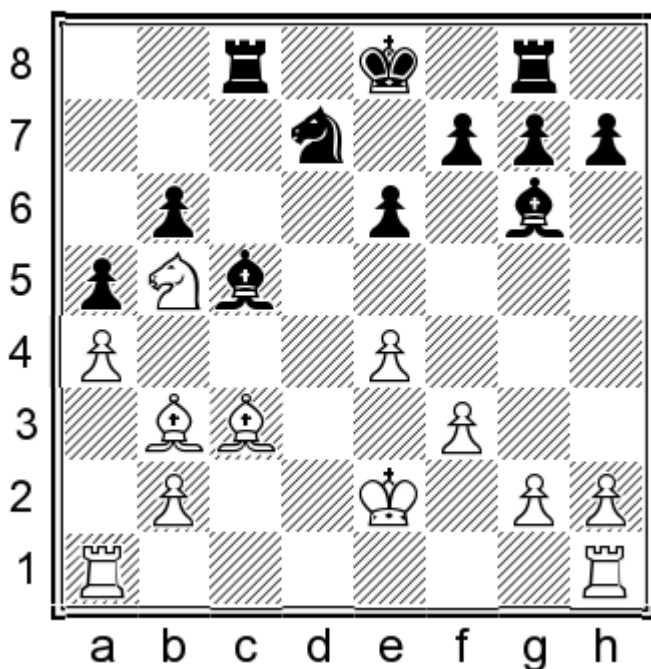
14...a5

14...a6 15.Rd1!? Rg8 16.a5! and the bishop can go to a4.

14...Nc5 15.Ba2 Nd3+ 16.Ke2 Nxb2 17.Rhc1 a6 18.Rab1 Rd8 19.Rxb2 Rxd4

20.Rxb7 ±

15.Ke2 Rg8 16.Nb5 Bc5 17.Bc3 b6



18.Be1! A great move. The bishop will go to g3 or h4 and it is difficult for Black to finish development.

18...Ne5

18...Ke7 19.Bg3! And now White is ready for Na7. 19...Nf6 (19...Rgd8? 20.Na7 +-;

19...e5 20.Bh4+ Nf6 21.Rhd1 ±) 20.Na7 Ra8 21.Nc6+ Ke8 22.Bc4 ±

19.Bh4 Bh5

19...Nc6 20.Rhd1 ±

20.Rhd1!

20.g4 g5! 21.Bg3 Nxg4 22.fxg4 Bxg4+ gives Black some chances.

20.Rac1 g5 21.Bg3 g4!? White is better, but Black finally has some active play.

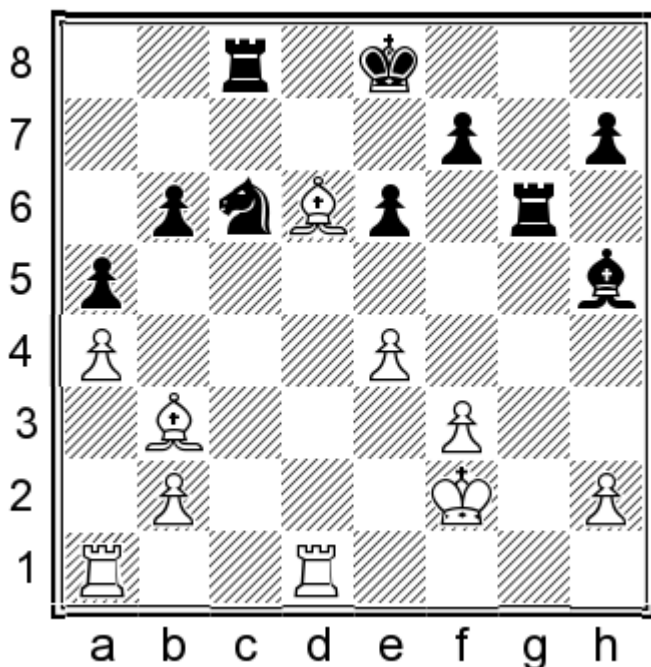
20...g5 21.Bg3 Nc6

21...g4 22.f4! (22.Bxe5?! there is no need for White to complicate the game. 22...gxf3+ 23.gxf3 Rg2+ 24.Kd3 Bxf3 25.Re1 Rd8+ 26.Nd4 Bxd4 27.Bxd4 Rxb2 28.Rab1 Rxb2 ∞ is once more unclear.) 22...Nc6 23.Nd6+ Bxd6

24.Rxd6 Ke7 25.e5 ±

22.Nd6+ Bxd6 23.Bxd6 g4 24.Kf2 gxf3 25.gxf3 White has the bishop's pair and better coordination. Black's position is hopeless.

25...Rg6



26.Bc4! Rf6

26...Na7 27.Rac1 Rd8 28.Be5 Rxd1 29.Rxd1 Ke7 30.Rd6 Rg5 31.f4 +-

27.Ra3 Na7 28.Rc1 e5

28...Rd8 29.Be5 Rg6 30.Rb3 Nc8 31.Bb5+ Kf8 32.Rd3! +-

29.Bxe5 Rfc6 30.Rac3 Ke7 31.Bd5 Rxc3 32.Rxc3 Rxc3 33.Bxc3 f6 34.Bd4 Nc8 35.Bb7 Nd6 36.Ba6 Be8 37.Bxb6 Bxa4 38.Bxa5 Bb5 39.Bxb5 Nxb5 40.Kg3 Kf7 41.Kf4 h5 42.e5 Ke6 43.exf6 Kxf6 44.Bc3+ Kg6 45.Be5 Na7 46.b4 Nb5 47.Ke4 1-0

A commanding performance by Fier against one of the world's top defenders. I consider this to be his best game ever.

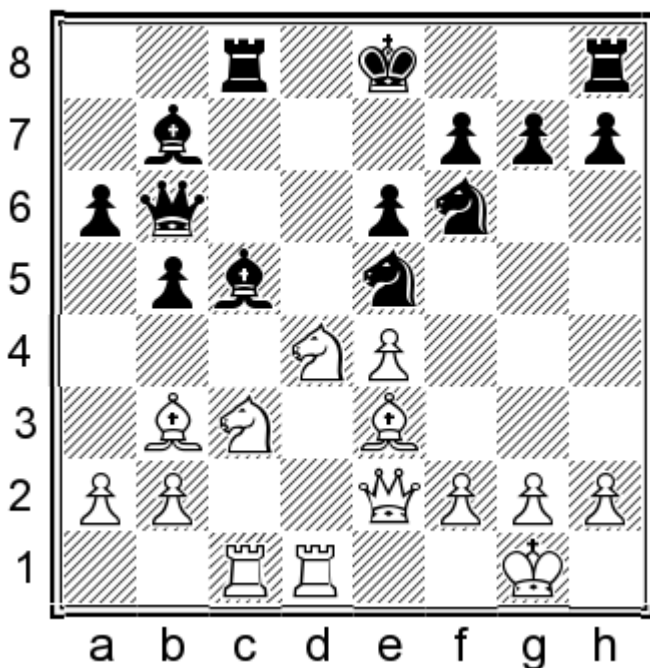
It will not look very humble to insert my own game in the article but I hope to be forgiven. This is the best game I ever played.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3 e6 4.Bxc4 c5 5.Nf3 a6 6.O-O Nf6 7.Nc3 b5 8.Bb3 Bb7 9.Qe2 Nbd7 10.e4?! Of course, this is harmless for Black.

10...cxd4 11.Nxd4 Bc5 12.Be3 Qb6 13.Rfd1 Ne5 14.Rac1

14.a4 O-O! and Black has no problems.

14...Rc8? Black is one move too late to castle and this brings immediate problems.



14...O-O 15.f3 Rfd8 16.Nc2 = And this is about equal, although a bit more comfortable for Black.

15.Na4!! This was based more on instinct than pure calculation, since it's nearly impossible to foresee everything.

15...bxa4 16.Bxa4+ Now Black has a tough choice to make.

16...Ke7

16...Ned7? This is the worse option. 17.Rxc5! Rxc5 (17...Qxc5 18.Nxe6 Qb4 19.Nxg7+ +-) 18.Nb3 Bc6 19.Nxc5 Nxc5 20.Rd6! +- The c6 bishop is not protected and White wins immediately.

16...Nfd7 17.Rxc5! (17.b4!? Qxb4 18.Bxd7+ Nxd7 19.Rb1 Qa4 20.Rxb7² - this would already be enough to justify the sacrifice.) 17...Rxc5 (17...Qxc5

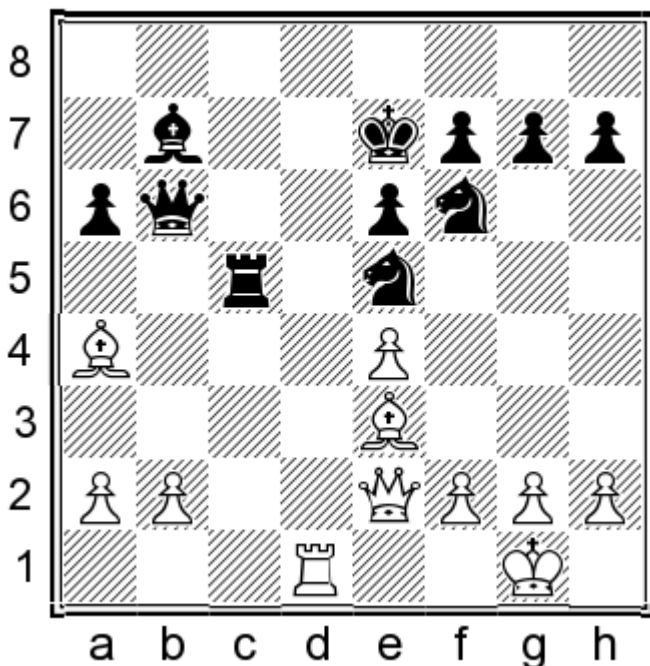
18.Nxe6→ with a devastating attack.) 18.Nb3 Bc6 19.Nxc5 Nxc5 20.Bxc6+ Qxc6 21.Rc1 Qxe4 22.Rxc5 ±

17.Rxc5! Rxc5 18.Nb3 Again, Black is facing a difficult choice.

18...Rhc8? This loses.

18...Nxe4! 19.Nxc5 Nxc5 20.Qd2! The idea is to play either b4, or Bc5 followed by Qg5. 20...Bd5! The best. 21.b4 Ne4! (21...Nxa4 22.Bxb6 Nxb6 23.Qg5+ f6 24.Qxg7+ Nf7 It's curious that when this game was played I didn't consider this position so much better for White as modern engines. I always overestimate the power of 3 pieces against the queen. The computer evaluates this as much better for White. 25.Qg3 ±) 22.Bxb6 Nxd2 23.Rxd2² So, this is more or less the best play after 15.Na4. White has the bishop's pair and of course is better, but Black can fight for a draw.

19.Nxc5 Rxc5



20.b4!! The good old "attraction" tactical theme.

20...Qxb4 21.Qd2

21.Qd2 Qxd2 22.Bxc5+ Kd8 23.Rxd2+ wins material. So, which of this games would you pick as the "Brazilian Immortal"?

1-0

AGGRESSIVE PLAY AND ATTACKING THE KING

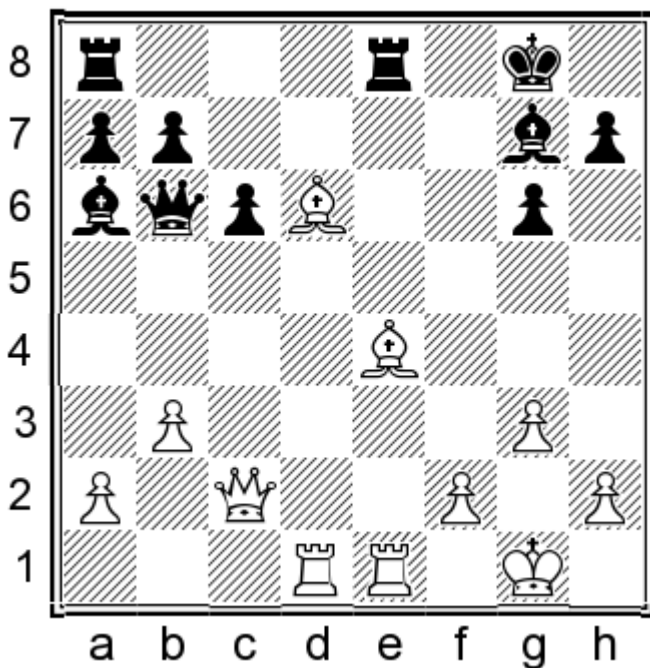
The year 2020 has certainly brought uncertainty in all of our lives, but the focus on chess continued to grow. Online chess was booming in the past year and with that the material for more dynamic chess. So, in this article I would like to share with you some games and positions with inspirational attacking play and often high level aggression on the board. I recently came across the following position as I was preparing some attacking chess material for my students and I decided to focus on some attacking positions. In the following position, White's pieces are ready to take over Black's weak king. The final blow starts with a break on the king side.

Piotr, M. - Smolovic, Mile
Hallsberg, 1991

**Sabina-Francesca
Foisor**

- **Country:** USA
- **Born:** 1989
- **Rating:** 2228
- **Peak rating:** 2386
- **Title:** Woman Grandmaster since 2007



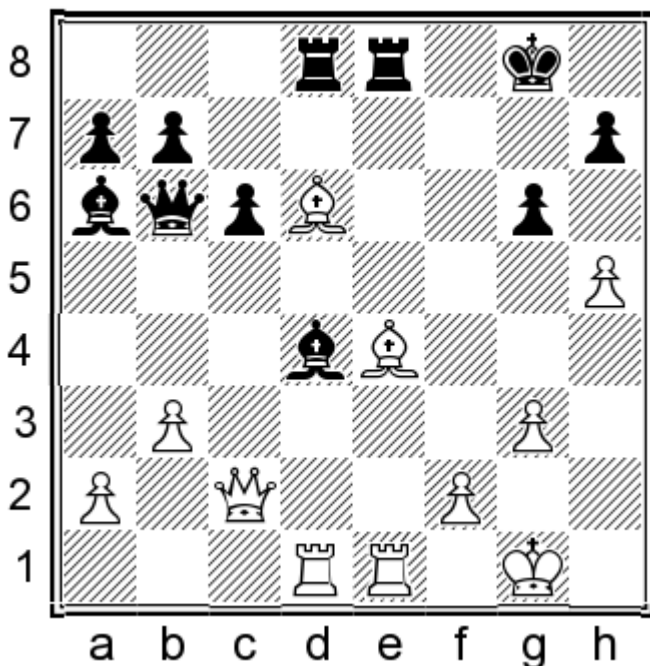


24.h4! A simple, yet typical attacking idea, when one has got the ideal piece placement.

24...Rad8 Given the lack of stopping White's threat, Black is trying some trades, but to no avail.

25.Bc5

25.h5 Would have been the alternative, as 25...Bd4



doesn't give Black enough chances for counterplay after 26.Bxg6!! +-

25...Qa5 26.b4! Nice intermediate move avoiding tactical ideas.

26...Qc7 27.h5 Following the initial plan.

27...Rxd1 28.Qxd1

28.Rxd1 b6 29.Be3 +- after which there is no way to prevent the loss of material on the b1-h7 diagonal.

28...Qf7 29.hxg6 hxg6 30.Bxa7 Bc3? Helped White convert the game in a much faster way.

30...Bc4 would have kept on the fight going: 31.a3 b5 32.Bc5 Bd5 33.Qg4 ±

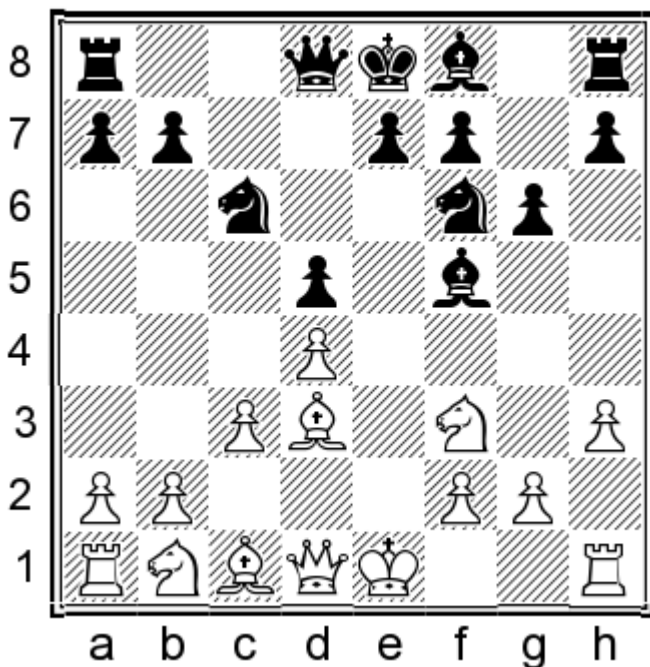
31.Re3 Bf6 32.Qg4! Rd8

Now if 32...Kg7, then 33.Bxg6, winning the exchange.

33.Bxg6 Qg7 34.Bc5 Bb5 35.Rf3 Kh8 36.Qh5+ Kg8 37.Rxf6 Be2 38.Bf7+ 1-0

The Caro-Kann is not necessary a type of defence leading to attacks, yet this game included an ambitious choice which led to a nice battle. I found the following game to have another nice example of flank attack.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nf6 5.h3 Nc6 6.c3 g6 7.Nf3 Bf5



8.Be2!? Seems to have become a trendy choice.

Would be a more natural one and was tried in the following game: 8.O-O Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Bg7 10.Bf4 O-O 11.Nbd2 e6 12.Rfe1 Re8 13.a4 Rc8 14.Qb5 Re7 15.a5 a6 16.Qa4 Re8 17.Re2 Bf8 18.Ne1 Bd6 19.Bxd6 Qxd6 20.Nd3 Qc7 21.Re3 Kg7 22.Qa3 h5 23.Nb3 Ne4 24.Nbc5 Nd6 25.b3 Nb5 26.Qc1!! = (26.Qb2?! Nxa5 27.Ne5 Nc6 28.Nxg6 (28.c4 Nd6 29.cxd5 exd5 30.Rf3 Nf5 31.g4 Ncxd4- + 32.Ned3 Re2 33.Qc3 Rc2 0 : 1 Grandelius,Nils 2670 - Van Foreest,Jorden 2701, tornelo.com (Internet-rapid) 2021) 28...Kxg6 29.Rg3+ Kf6μ)

8...e6!? This is not the move one would be expecting after developing the light-square bishop and suggesting a fianchetto for the dark-square one.

Was tried in the game Caruana - Firouzja, and White maintained the advantage after 8...Bg7 9.O-O O-O 10.Re1 Nd7 11.Bf4² Caruana,Fabiano 2835 - Firouzja,Alireza 2728, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020

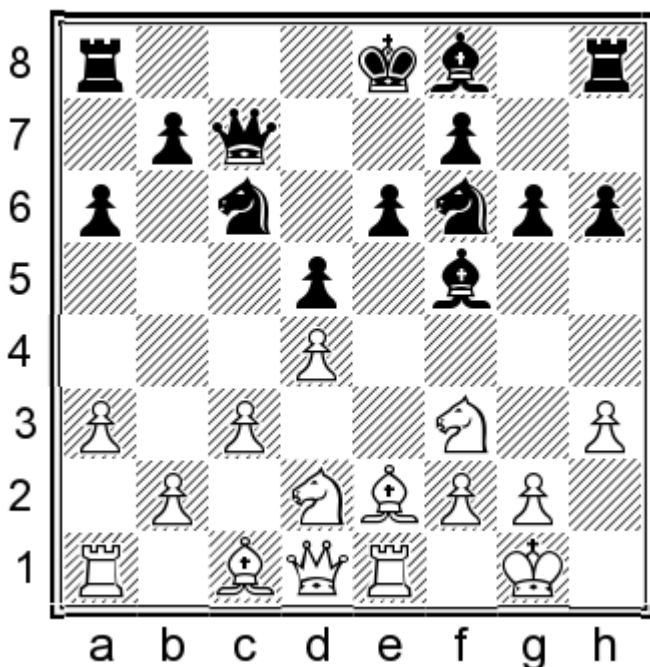
9.O-O Thankfully, there is no way of trapping the Bf5.

9...a6 10.Re1 h6 11.a3 Controlling the b4-square and getting ready for the

typical c4, but White does not seem to be in time for it despite the extra tempo as compared to the Queen's Gambit Declined.

11...Qc7 12.Nbd2

12.c4? Rd8 13.Nc3 dxc4 14.Bxc4 Nxd4μ



12...g5!? This is the move that made me choose this game. An interesting e6 leading to a change of mind and preparing a king-side attack.

13.c4?! White follows his play, but it only backfires.

13.Nf1 g4 14.Nh4∞

13...Rd8 14.c5? While it may seem that White has time to push forward his majority on the queenside, closing the centre gives Black a free attack.

White had to continue with 14.b4 g4 15.Nh4 Bh7 16.hxg4 dxc4³

14...Ne4! A typical move that keeps the e-file closed, so Black could soon focus on the opening of White's king.

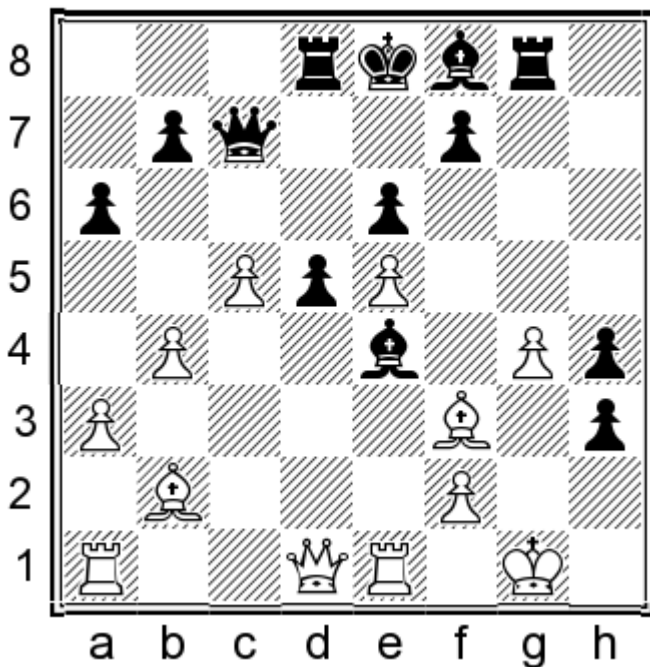
15.b4 h5?!

15...Bg7 16.Bb2 h5!μ

16.Bb2? This is too much. Now Black is entirely unstoppable.

16.Nxe4 would have kept the position complicated: 16...dxe4 17.Nxg5 Nxd4 18.Bd2 Bh6 19.Bf1μ

16...g4 17.Ne5 gxh3 18.Nxe4 Bxe4 19.Bf3 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Rg8 21.g3 h4
22.g4



22...f5! 23.exf6 Rxg4+! Black is winning, Despite the ups and downs, it was a fantastic performance by Esipenko!

24.Kh1 Qf4 25.Re3

25.Bxe4 dxe4 26.Qb3 Kf7 27.Qxh3 Rd3 28.Re3 Qf5 29.Be5 Bh6- + and White can resign.

25...Bxf3+ 26.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 27.Rxf3 Kf7 28.Kh2 Re4 29.Kxh3 d4 30.Rd1 e5?

30...Bh6!- +

31.Bc1 Rd7 32.Kg2 Ke6 33.f7 Re2 34.Kf1??

34.Bg5! Rxf7 35.Rxf7 Kxf7 36.Kf3 Ra2 37.Bxh4 Rxa3+³

34...Rc2!- + 35.Bg5 Rxf7 36.Rxf7 Kxf7 37.Bxh4 Bg7 38.f3 Ke6 39.Rb1 Bf8 40.Re1 Bh6 41.Bg3 Be3 42.Re2 Rc1+ 43.Re1 Rc2 44.Re2 Rc3 45.Bf2 Rxa3 46.Bxe3 Rxe3 0-1

B76

Grandelius, Nils (2670) - Shirov, Alexei (2662)
chess24.com (Internet-m/1-blitz), 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 O-O 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.O-O-O d5 10.Nxc6!?

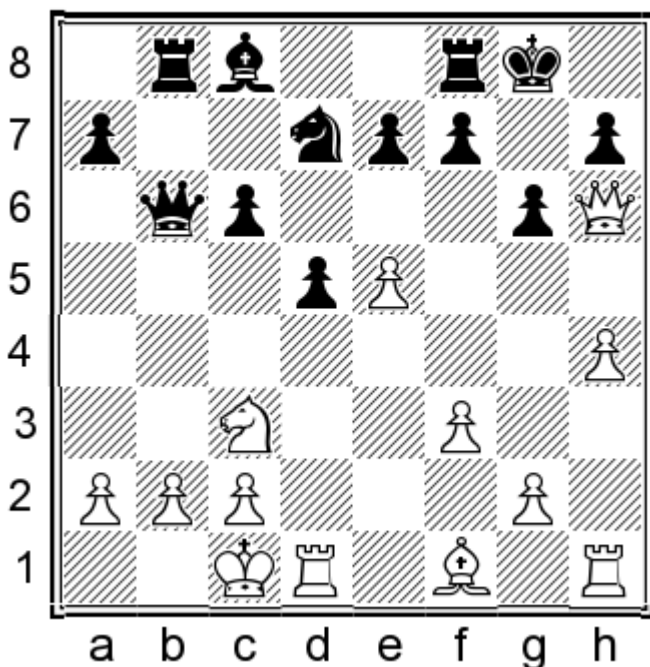
10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd4 This is the mainstream continuation.
 12...Bxd4 13.Qxd4 Qb6 14.Na4 Qc7 15.c4 Nf4 16.g3 e5 17.Qd6 Qa5 =
 (17...Qxd6 18.Rxd6² Nakamura,Hikaru 2736 - Jones,Gawain 2670,
 chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021)

10.Qe1 e5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.exd5 - another popular line! 12...Nxd5 13.Bc4
 Be6 14.Kb1 a5 15.Ne4 f5 16.Ng5 Qe7 17.Nxe6 Qxe6 18.Bc5 Rfb8 19.Qd2
 Kh8 (19...e4!?) 20.Bxd5 cxd5 21.Qxd5 Qf6 22.Qd6² Dominguez
 Perez,Leinier 2750 - Mamedov,Rauf 2650, Hengshui (blitz) 2019

10...bxc6 11.Bh6 Bxh6 12.Qxh6 Qb6 13.e5 Nd7 14.h4! Follows the natural attacking idea in these types of positions.

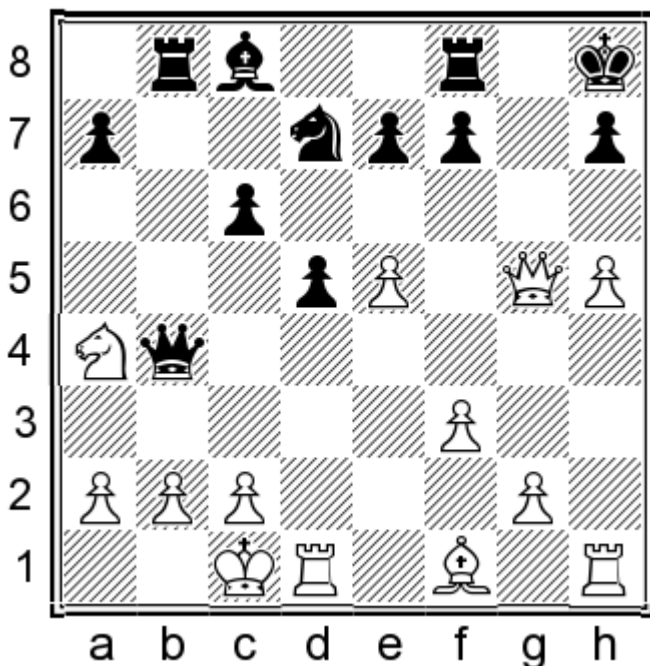
14...Rb8??

14...Nxe5 Had to be played so Black could improve his defence. 15.h5 Bf5
 16.g4 f6! 17.Qd2 (17.gxf5?? g5 and the queen is trapped.; 17.Qf4!? Bd7
 18.hxg6 hxg6 19.g5©) 17...Rab8 18.b3 ∞



15.b3?? Pawn fences aren't always the right way to fend off an attack to one's king.

15.Na4! Qb4 16.h5 g5 17.Bd3 (17.Qxg5+ Kh8



18.Rh4!+- (18.e6 fxe6 19.Rh4 Rg8!? = (19...Qd6? 20.Rg4 Qe5 21.Qxe7 ± Belov,Igor 2424 - Antipin,Alexey 2244, Moscow 2006))) 17...f5 18.Qxg5+ Kh8 19.Rh4 d4 20.Bxf5 Qxa4 21.h6 1 : 0 Nepomniachtchi,Ian 2751 - Mamedov,Rauf 2709, Moscow (blitz) 2018

15...Qc5?? It isn't easy to play this position in shorter time control. Now that White's king is completely safe it is time to start the kingside attack.

15...Nxe5! was necessary. 16.h5 Bf5 17.g4 f6 18.Qf4 g5 19.Qxf5 Qe3+ 20.Kb2 Rf7 21.Ba6 e6 22.Rd3 exf5 23.Rxe3 d4 ∞

16.h5! g5 17.Bd3 f5 18.Qxg5+ Kh8 19.h6? Allows for some regrouping.

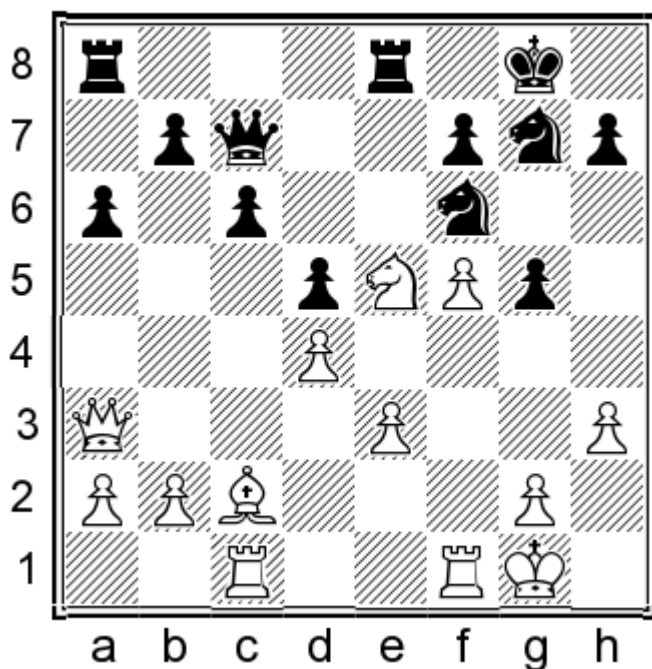
19.Ne2 Rg8 20.Qxf5 +-

19...Rg8 20.Qd2 Nxe5 21.Rde1 d4 22.Na4 Qd6 23.Kb1 Nf7? This is the final mistake after which White is winning.

23...Nxd3 24.Qxd3 Rxd3 25.Re2 Rg6 26.Rhe1²

24.Bc4 e6 25.Re2 Bd7 26.Qa5 Rg6 27.Qxa7 Rbg8 28.Rd1 Rxh6 29.Qxd4+ Qxd4 30.Rxd4 Bc8 31.Nc5 e5 32.Rd1 Rf8 33.Bxf7 Rxf7 34.Rd8+ 1-0

There were many interesting attacking games played in the NIC Classic KO event, but this one was particularly interesting. It showed how slowing down for one moment thinking you close down the attack, actually helps start the fire instead.



In this position Nakamura played: **22.h4?**

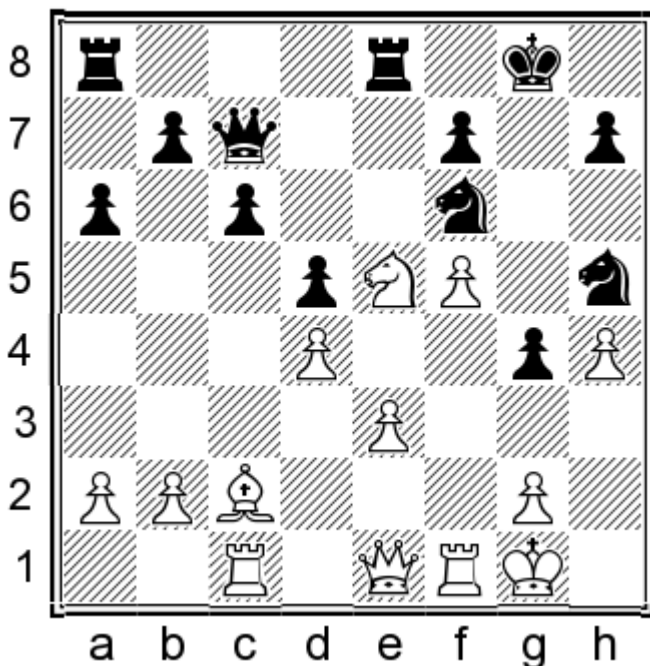
22.Qc3 had to be played to bring the queen back into play leading to balanced position.

22...g4! Now it is White who will have to find a way to defend all the pawn weaknesses on the kingside.

22...gxh4 might have been White's hope to follow with 23.Rf4 h3 24.gxh3 ∞

23.Qc3 A little late, after the weaknesses were made.

23...Ngh5 24.Qe1



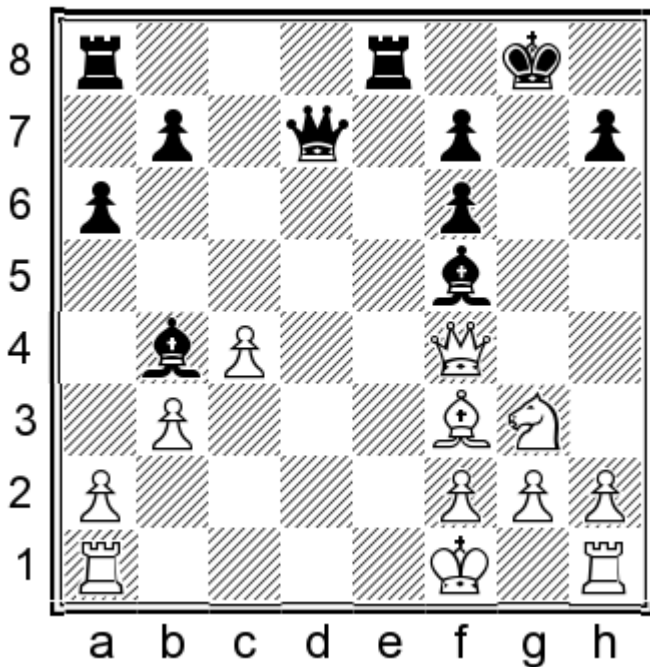
24...Rxe5! A nice positional exchange sacrifice a la Petrosian!

25.dxe5 Qxe5 26.Qc3 Qg3! - and from here on it was just a matter of technique, for the World Champion.

27.Qe1 Qd6 28.Qf2 Re8 29.Rcd1 Qe5 30.Rd4 c5 31.Rd2 Ng3 32.Rfd1 Kf8 33.Rd3 Nfe4 34.Qe1 Qf6 35.Rxd5 Qxh4 36.Bxe4 Qh1+ 37.Kf2 Nxe4+ 38.Ke2 Qxg2+ 39.Kd3 0-1

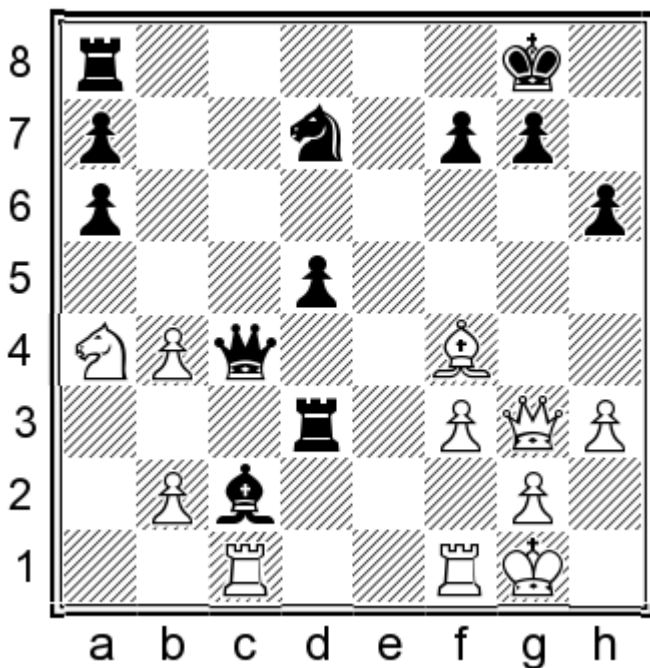
When you find a nice tactical idea in a couple of games, it is a shame not to share it, so here is a simple tactical idea nicely executed by the new Challenger, taking advantage of White's uncastled king and undeveloped pieces.

Artemiev, Vladislav (2716) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2784)
chess24.com (Internet-m2/3-rapid), 2020



20...Bb1! 21.Kg1 Re1+ 22.Nf1 Qd3 23.Qg4+ Kh8 24.Be2 Rxe2 25.Rxb1
Bc5 26.h4 Rxf2 27.Re1 Rf4+ 0-1

Zhao, Jun (2638) - Bai, Jinshi (2618)
China (ch), 2021



White is better in every sense. Black's king is not safe, the pin along the c-file is effective and Black's pieces lack harmony. White realises his attack in a stylish fashion, combining threats and prophylactic measures.

26.Kh2! Starting the attack with prophylactic moves to avoid checks have always been my favorite puzzles to solve.

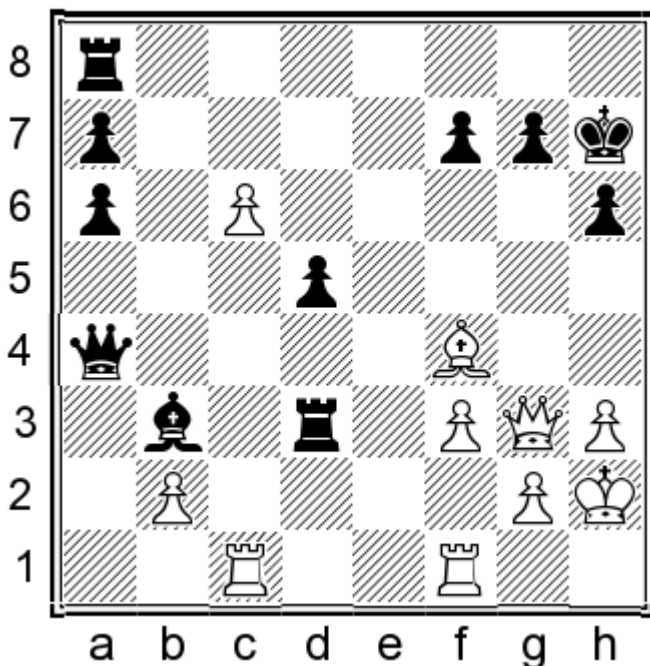
26...Kh7 27.Nc5! White is bringing the final piece into play by forcing Black to trade. That allows White to advance with a passed pawn.

27...Nxc5 28.bxc5 Qa4

28...Qxc5 29.Rf2 +-;

28...g5 29.Be5 Qa4 30.Qf2 Bb3 31.c6 +- -

29.c6 Bb3



30.Bb8! The final blow, similar to Vladislav Artemiev - Ian Nepomniachtchi!

30...Bc4 31.c7 Qd7 32.Qf4 Rb3 33.Rxc4! 1-0

B69

Zhao, Jun (2638) - Xu, Xiangyu (2573)

China (ch), 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 The Richter-Rauzer is not a common guest in grandmaster games, but the two aggressive Chinese grandmasters entered the most theoretical line.

6...e6 7.Qd2 a6 8.O-O-O Be7 9.f4 Bd7 10.Nf3 b5 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Kb1 Qb6 13.f5! O-O-O 14.g3

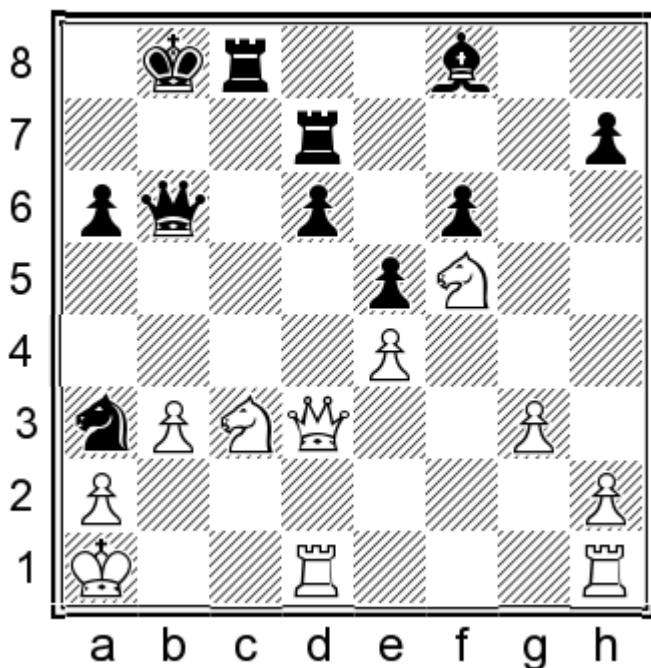
14.Qh6!? Kb8 15.Qh5 is liked by the engine, but it is a story for an opening article.

14...Kb8 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.Bh3 Bc8?! I am not particularly fond of this idea.

On the contrary, the alternative **16...Na5!** is an aggressive move, that allows for many interesting attacking lines and it was tried on several occasions.

17.Nd4 b4 18.Nce2 e5! 19.Bxd7 Rxd7 20.Nf5 Nc4 21.Qd3 (21.Qd5 Rc8 22.Nc1 Bf8 23.Nb3 Rdc7 24.Rc1 a5 25.Nd2 Nxd2+ (25...a4 26.Nxc4 Rxc4 27.Rhe1 R4c5 28.Qd2 a3 ∞ Karpus,Michal 2311 - Starosciak,Szymon 1864, Polska 2020) 26.Qxd2 a4 27.Rhe1 Rc3 (27...Rc4?! 28.Re3² Droin,Augustin

2289 - Espinosa Veloz,Ermes 2485, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020; 27...a3 28.b3 Rd7 29.Qd5 Rdc7 30.Red1 Rc3 31.Qd2 Rf3 32.Rf1 Rxf5 33.exf5 Qc5 34.Rcd1 Rc7 35.Rfe1 (35.Rf2 Bh6 36.Qxd6 Qxf2 = 37.Qd8+ Kb7 38.Qd5+) 35...Bh6 36.Qd3 d5©) 28.g4 a3 29.b3 R8c7 ∞) 21...Rc8 22.Nc1 (22.Ka1 Bf8 23.b3 Na3 24.c4 bxc3 25.Nxc3

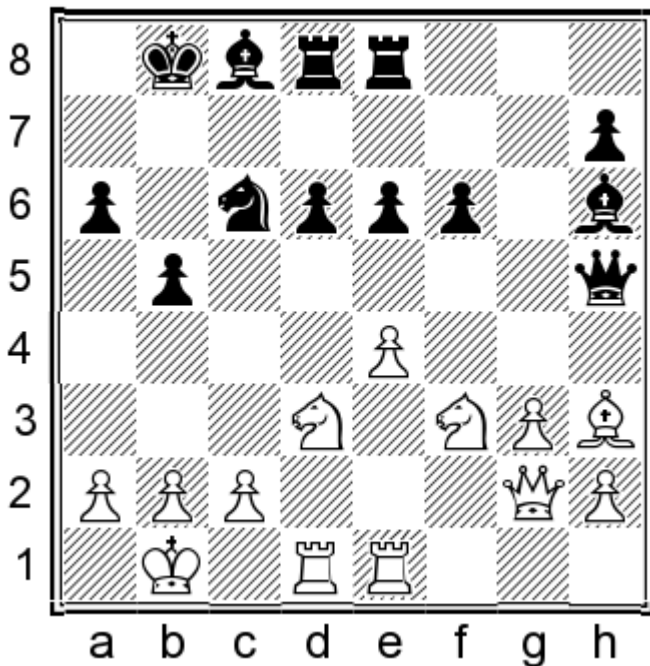


25...d5! This leads to a forced draw. 26.Nxd5 Rxd5 (26...Qf2!? 27.Rhf1 (27.Rd2 Qc5 ∞) 27...Nc2+ 28.Kb2 Ba3+ 29.Kb1 Qc5 ∞ Navara,David 2734 - Saric, Ivan 2681, Greece 2019 - 141/61) 27.exd5 Nc2+ 28.Kb1 Na3+ =) 22...a5 23.Nb3 d5 24.exd5 a4 25.Nxe7 (25.Nd2?? Na3+ 26.bxa3 Rc3 27.Qe2 bxa3+ 28.Nb3 axb3 29.cxb3 Rxb3+ 30.Ka1 Rb2 31.Rb1 Bb4 32.Qe3 Qb5 33.Rhd1 Qc4 34.Rxb2 axb2+ 35.Kb1 Rc7 36.Qb6+ Ka8 0 : 1 Zou,Chen 2440 - Sethuraman,SP 2630, Changsha 2019) 25...Rxe7 26.d6 Rd7 27.Nd2 Na3+ 28.bxa3 bxa3+ 29.Nb3 axb3 30.Qxb3 Qxb3+ 31.axb3 Rc6 =

17.Qg2?!

17.a3!? Rhe8 18.Rhe1 Ne5 (18...Bf8?! 19.Qf4 Qc7 20.Na2! (20.Ne2?! Bg7,, Ducarmon,Quinten 2201 - Vovk,Yuri 2567, Leiden 2009) 20...Bg7 21.Qe3 Ne5 22.Nd4 and after Nb4 White is much better.) 19.Qf4 Bf8 20.Nxe5 fxe5 21.Qf3² Dessaulles,Peter - Hrzina,Boris, corr 2018/19

17...Rhe8 18.Ne2 Bf8 19.Nf4 Bh6 20.Rhe1 Qc5 21.Nd3 Qh5

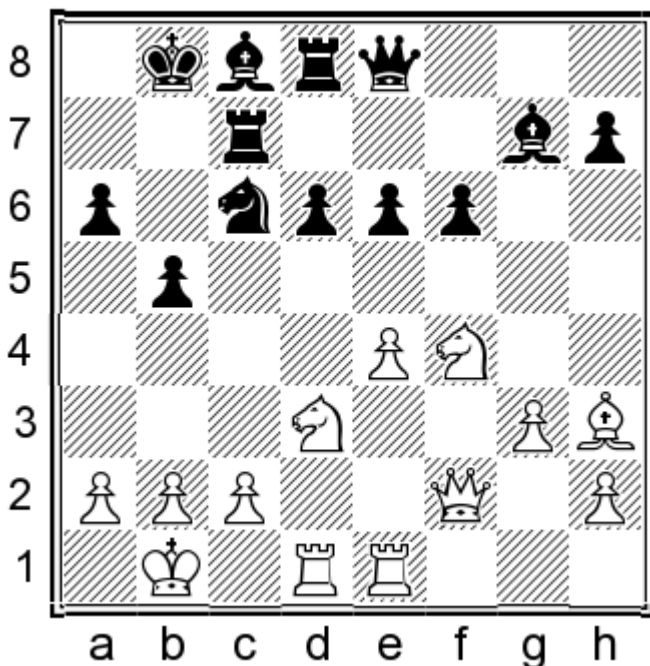


22.Qf1! Eye-balling a shift towards the queenside! My type of prophylaxis.

22...Re7 23.Ng1

23.Bg2 Rc7 24.Qg1! Kb7 25.Nh4 ± with the crushing threat of e5.

23...Bg7 24.Ne2 Rc7 25.Nef4 Qe8 26.Qf2



26...Bh6??

Black underestimated the entrance of White's queen into the attack. 26...Rb7 27.Bg2 Bd7 28.Nc1 Bf8 ±

27.Qb6+ +- Rb7

27...Bb7 28.Nxe6 +-

28.Qxa6 Ne5 29.Nb4 Bf8 30.Nfd3 Bd7 31.Nxe5 dxe5 32.Rxd7 Rxd7 33.Nc6+ Kc7 34.Na5 Rb8 35.Bxe6 Rd2 36.Bd5 Qc8 37.Qc6+ Kd8 38.Qxf6+ Kc7 39.Nc6 Qg4 40.a3 Re8 41.Na7 Qd7 42.Qa6 Rxh2 43.Nxb5+ Kd8 44.Rf1 1-0

C78

Moranda, Wojciech (2618) - Wojtaszek, Radoslaw (2694)

Polska (ch), 2021

1.e4 Another topical opening battle.

1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Bc5 6.c3 b5 7.Bc2 d5 8.a4 dxe4 9.axb5 Bg4 10.bxc6 exf3 11.gxf3 Bh3 12.Re1 O-O 13.Ra5 Qd6 14.b4 This is all theory.

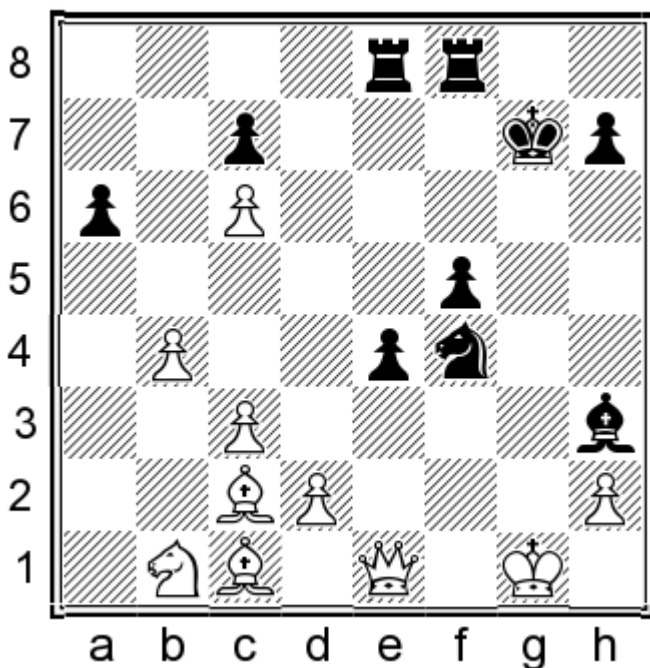
14...Bxf2+ 15.Kxf2 e4 16.Kg1 Rae8 17.Re3 Nh5 18.Rg5 Qh6 19.f4 One of White's two choices in this position.

Another is 19.Rg3 Nxg3 20.hxg3 exf3 21.Qxf3 Re6 22.Qf4 g5 23.Qd4 Rd6 24.Qe5 Re6 25.Qd4 Rd6 26.Qe4 Rf6 27.Bd3 Bf5 28.Qd5 Bxd3 29.Qxd3 Qh3 30.Qe2 Rh6 (30...Rxc6 31.Qg2² Dominguez Perez,Leinier 2758 - Caruana,Fabiano 2835, lichess.org (Internet-m/3-rapid) 2020) 31.Qg2 Qg4 =

19...Nxf4 20.Reg3

20.Rgg3 f5 21.d4 (21.Qe1? Bg4 22.d4 Nh3+ 23.Kh1 Qh5 24.Nd2 f4 (24...Ng5?! 25.Qg1 h6 26.Re1 Bh3 27.Bd1 Qh4 = Ikeda,Junta 2452 - Kuybokarov,Temur 2543, Canberra 2021) 25.Rxh3 Bxh3 26.Rxe4 Rxe4 27.Bxe4 Re8 28.Kg1 Qg4+ 29.Kf2 Qh4+ 30.Ke2 f3+- +) 21...Bg4 22.Qf1 Nh5 23.Rg2 Nf4 =

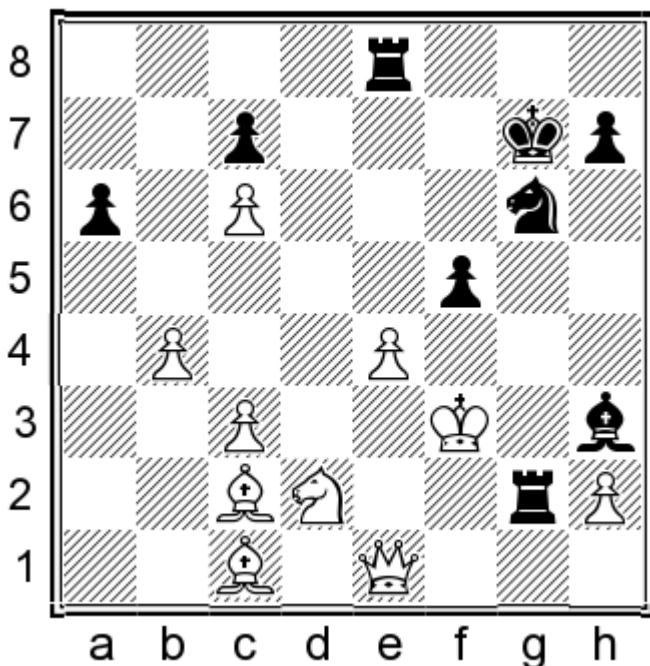
20...f5 21.Rxg7+ Qxg7 22.Rxg7+ Kxg7 23.Qe1 These are all still forced engine moves.



23...e3?!

23...Rf6! 24.Qe3 Rg6+ 25.Kf2 Rg4 26.Na3 Re6©

24.dxe3 Rf6 25.Kf2 Rg6 26.Nd2 Rg2+ 27.Kf3 Ng6 28.e4



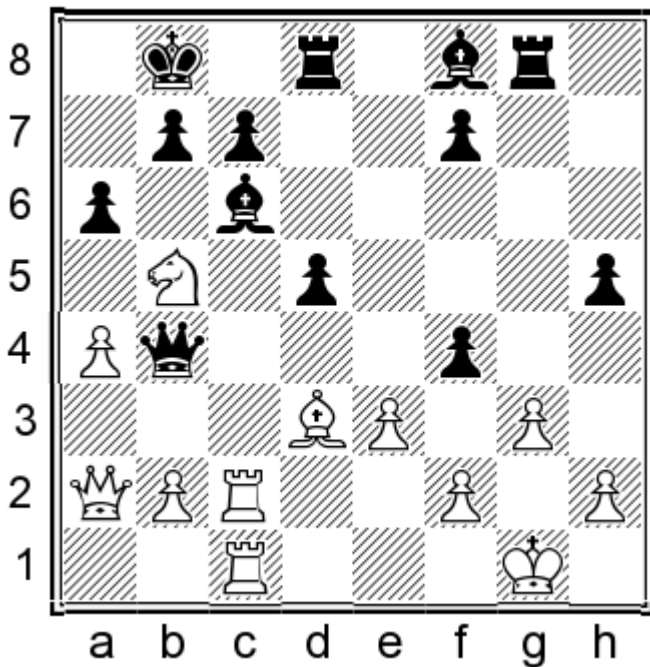
28...Ne5+?? Now it is all over. A decisive blunder.

28...f4! 29.Qh1 Kh6 30.Qxg2 Nh4+ 31.Kxf4 Nxc2+ 32.Kg3 Rg8+ 33.Kf2²

29.Ke3 f4+ 30.Kxf4 Ng4 31.e5 Nxe5 32.Qxe5+! Rxe5 33.Kxe5 Rxh2 34.Be4
 Re2 35.Nf3 Bg2 36.Kd4 Rf2 37.Ng5 Bxe4 38.Nxe4 Rf1 39.Bg5 Kg6 40.Be7
 h5 41.Nc5 a5 42.bxa5 h4 43.Bxh4 Rf4+ 44.Kd5 Rxh4 45.a6 Kf7 46.a7 Rh8
 47.Na6 Ra8 48.Nxc7 Rxa7 49.Nb5 Ra5 50.c7 Rxb5+ 51.Kc4 1-0

The topic of choice reminded me of two of my own games that involved attacking ideas that I missed. I remember playing this game in the Xtracon Open in 2018. I had an overall good tournament and had I at least drawn this game, I could have scored my last IM norm. After some unorthodox opening, we reached this interesting position. Black seems to be ahead in the game, but it is White's turn to start the fire.

Foisor, Sabina Francesca (2285) - Holm, Kristian Stuvik (2453)
 Helsingør, 2018

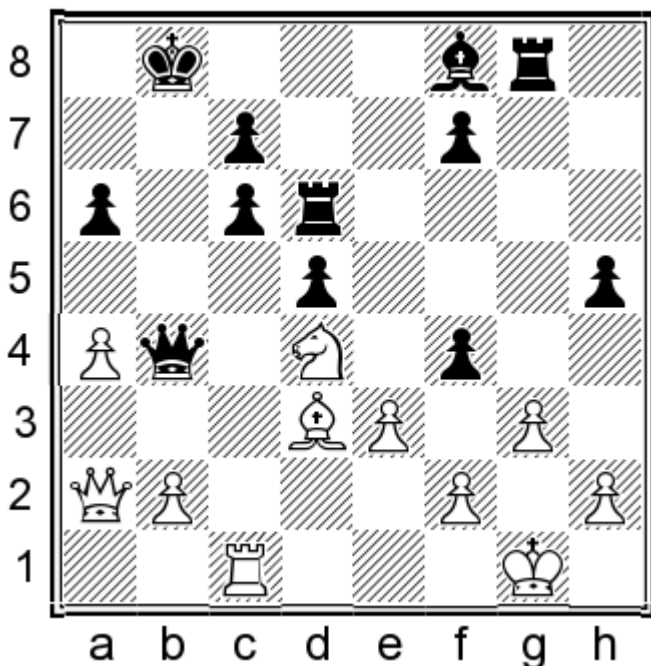


23.Rxc6™

23.Nd4? would be too slow - 23...fxe3 24.Nxc6+ bxc6 25.fxe3 c5 26.Bxa6 h4 27.Rc3 Ka7- +

23...bxc6 24.Nd4 Coming now with tempo.

24...Rd6



24...Ka8 25.Rxc6 (25.Nxc6 Qd2 26.Qb1 fxe3 27.Nxd8 Qxf2+ 28.Kh1 Qf3+ 29.Kg1 Bd6 30.Qc2 ∞) 25...Qe1+ 26.Kg2 fxg3 27.hxg3 h4 28.Qb3 Bb4 29.Qc2 and I wasn't able to find more than a draw for Black here. 29...Rxc3+ 30.fxg3 Qxc3+ 31.Kh1 Qe1+ 32.Kh2 Bd6+ 33.Rxd6 Qg3+= (33...Rxd6 34.Qxc7=)

25.Rc3??

25.Rxc6?? fxe3- +;

25.Nxc6+! The important idea I failed to calculate until the end. 25...Rxc6 26.Rxc6 Qe1+ (26...fxe3? 27.Qxd5 Qe1+ (27...Bd6 28.Rc3! (28.Qxf7?? Rf8- +) 28...Ka7 29.fxe3 ±) 28.Kg2 Qxf2+ 29.Kh3 + -) 27.Kg2 (27.Bf1 fxe3 28.Qb3+ Bb4 29.Qxe3 Qxe3 30.fxe3 =) 27...fxg3 (27...fxe3?? 28.Qxd5) 28.hxg3 (28.Qb3+ Bb4) 28...Rxc3+ (28...h4 29.Qxd5 h3+ 30.Kxh3 Rh8+ 31.Kg4) 29.Kxc3 Qg1+ 30.Kh3 Qh1+ 31.Kg3 Qg1+=

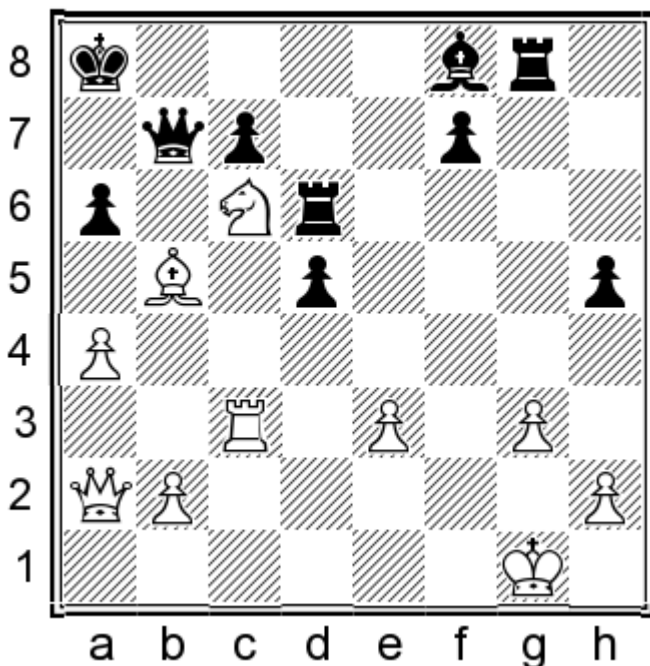
25...Ka8 26.Nxc6

26.Nc2 Qb8 27.exf4 Bg7- +

26...Qb7 27.Bb5

27.Na5 Qb6 28.Nc4 dxc4 29.Qxc4 fxe3 30.Rb3 Rg4! 31.Qxf7 Rb4 32.Qxf8+ Ka7 33.Rxb4 Qxb4 34.fxe3 Qxb2- +

27...fxe3 28.fxe3



28.Rxe3 Rxc6 29.Re8+ Ka7 30.Bxc6 Qxc6

28...Rgg6?? My opponent gave me another chance, which I unfortunately didn't take.

28...Qb6? 29.Nb4! axb5 30.Nxd5 (30.axb5+ Kb7 31.Nxd5) 30...Rxd5
31.Qxd5+ Ka7 32.Qxf7 =

Now 28...Bg7! would have sealed the deal. 29.Rd3 Rxc6 30.Bxc6 Qxc6
31.Qxd5 Qxd5- +

29.Rb3??

29.Nd4 axb5 30.axb5+ Kb8 31.Nc6+ Kc8- +;

29.Na5! is the last chance 29...Qb6 (29...Qb8?? 30.Bc6+ Ka7 31.Rb3 + -;
29...Qc8 30.Bc6+ Ka7 31.Bxd5 Qd7 32.Rd3 h4 33.Qc4 hxg3 34.h4∞)
30.Bc6+ Ka7 (30...Rxc6 31.Nxc6 Rxc6 32.Qxd5 Kb7 33.Rb3 Bb4 34.a5 Qb5
35.Qxb5+ axb5 36.Rxb4 =) 31.Rb3 Rxc6 (31...Qxa5?? 32.Rb7+ Ka8
33.Rb5+ Rxc6 34.Rxa5 + -) 32.Rxb6 Rc1+ 33.Kg2 Rxb6 34.Qxd5 Rxb2+
35.Kh3 =

29...Rxc6 30.Bxc6 Qxc6 31.Qb1 Rf6- + and I lost easily from this point on.

2017 has been a difficult year for me after the loss of my mother, but life brought a small ray of sunshine as I won the US Women's Championship. Later that year, I was selected as a member of the US team to take part in the

Women's World Chess Championship. I remember many top female players declined the invitation due to the time of the event - in the summer when many important events take place. It was an honor for me to play board 2 for the team. Despite going with a weaker team, we gave tough fights to many of the top teams. It meant a lot to be given the opportunity to play board 1 on two occasions. This was the second game. After having scored a nice win against none other than WGM Zeinab Mamedjarova, who has been leading the Azeri team for years, I was given the opportunity to play yet again against the strong team of Georgia. I remember that on paper our team was much weaker, but we were fearless. I chose to play the Nimzo-Indian given my success earlier that year.

E39

Dzagnidze, Nana (2533) - Foisor, Sabina Francesca (2331)
Khanty-Mansiysk, 2017

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3 O-O 5.Qc2 c5 6.dxc5 Na6

6...Bxc5 7.Bf4 Nc6 8.e3 Nh5 9.Bg5 Be7 10.h4 f5 11.Rd1 h6 12.Bxe7 Qxe7
 13.Nb5 (13.Be2!?) 13...b6 14.Be2 Bb7 15.Nd6 Rab8 16.O-O Ba8 (16...g5!?)
 17.Qa4 Nf6 18.Qa3 Ng4 19.Nb5 Qf7 20.Qd6² Xiong,Jeffery 2709 - Iturrizaga
 Bonelli,Eduardo 2607, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2021

7.g3

7.c6 bxc6 8.g3 d5 9.Bd2?! (9.Bg2!?) 9...d4 10.Ne4 Rb8 11.Nxf6+ Qxf6
 (11...gxf6?! 12.Rd1 c5 13.b3 =) 12.Bg2 e5 13.O-O Bf5 14.Qc1 Bxd2
 (14...h6!?) 15.Qxd2 h6 16.Qa5 c5 17.b3 e4 18.Nd2 Rfe8 19.Rad1 Rb6
 20.Nb1 Qe7 21.e3 Bg4 22.Rd2 Nb4 23.exd4 cxd4 (23...e3- + 24.fxe3 Qxe3+
 25.Kh1 Rf6 26.Rg1 Qxg1+ 27.Kxg1 Re1+ 28.Bf1 Rfxf1+ 29.Kg2 Rg1+
 30.Kf2 Ref1+ 31.Ke3 Rf3+ 0 : 1 Virkud,Apurva 2262 - Foisor,Sabina
 Francesca 2272, USA (ch) 2017) 24.h3 Bc8μ

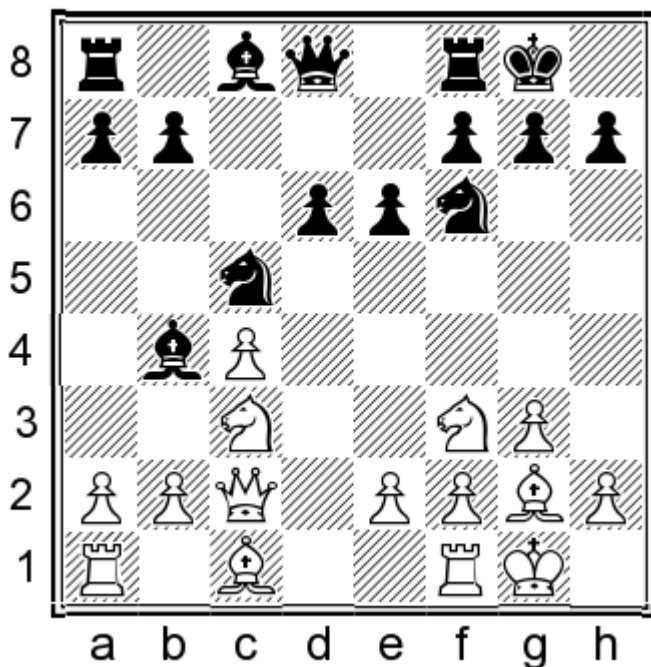
7...Nxc5 8.Bg2 I had played this line with both colors long time ago, but wanted to keep some options for attack in this game.

8...d6

8...Nce4 9.O-O Nxc3 10.bxc3 Be7 11.e4 (11.Rd1 Qc7 12.Qd3 d6 13.Ba3 Rd8
 14.Rab1 Rb8 15.h3 b6 16.Nd4 Bd7 17.e4 Bf8 18.g4 (18.Nb5!?) 18...Ba4
 19.Nb5 Bxb5 20.cxb5 Rbc8 21.Bb4 h6 22.a4 Nd7 23.Bxd6 Bxd6 24.Qxd6
 Qxd6 25.Rxd6 Nc5 26.Rd4 e5 27.Rxd8+ (27.Rc4 Rd2 28.a5 Rcd8³
 Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar 2747 - Wojtaszek,Radoslaw 2727, Huai'an (blitz)
 2016) 27...Rxd8 28.Ra1 Kf8 =) 11...d6 12.e5 dxe5 13.Nxe5 Qc7 14.Qe2 Nd7
 15.Bf4 Nxe5 16.Bxe5 Bd6 17.Rfe1 Rb8 18.Rad1 Bxe5 19.Qxe5 Qxe5

20.Rxe5 b6 21.c5 Ba6 22.c6 Rbc8 (RR22...Rfd8 23.Ree1 (23.Rc1 Rbc8 24.c4 Rd4 25.c5 b5 26.Ree1 b4 27.Red1 Rxd1+ 28.Rxd1 Kf8 29.Rd4 Bb5 30.Rxb4 Bxc6 31.Bxc6 Rxc6 32.Rb7 Rxc5 33.Rxa7 Rc2=) 23...Rbc8 24.c7 Rf8 25.Rd7 Bb5 26.Red1 Bxd7 27.Rxd7 g5 28.Bb7 Kg7 29.Kg2 g4=) 23.Rd7 Rfd8 24.Re4 Rxd7 25.cxd7 Rd8= Nakamura, Hikaru 2781 - Caruana,Fabiano 2799, London 2017 - 135/183

9.O-O



9...Bxc3?! This was definitely a wrong positional decision, but I wanted to try to complicate things a little bit. From the perspective of the match, we had nothing to lose. As for me, I had to make some changes in order to score my final IM norm.

9...Bd7 would have been the natural approach as tried in the game: 10.a3 Bxc3 11.Qxc3 Rc8 12.Bg5 Nce4 13.Qd4 Nxc5 14.Nxc5 b6 15.b3 Bc6 16.Ne4 1/2 : 1/2 Parligras,Mircea Emilian 2578 - Iordachescu,Viorel 2603, Srbija 2014

10.Qxc3 a5

¹10...e5 11.Rd1 (11.b4 Ne6 (11...Na4 12.Qa3 Nb6 13.c5 Nc4 14.Qd3 d5 15.Nd2²) 12.Bb2 a5²) 11...Qb6 12.Be3 Be6 ±

11.Rd1 Nfe4 12.Qe3

12.Qc2 f5 13.Bf4 Ra6 14.Nd2 Nf6 15.Nb3 Qc7²

12...f5 13.b3

13.Ng5 Nf6 14.b3 Ra6 15.Ba3²

13...Qf6 14.Ba3 b6 15.Nd4

15.Nd2 Bb7 16.Nxe4 Bxe4 17.Qd4 Rad8 18.Qxf6 Rxf6 19.Bxe4 Nxe4 20.f3 Nc5 21.Bc1²

15...e5? Given the nerves needed to defend this position, I tried a different approach. The text move is bad, but it brought excitement to the game! Also, I was more or less in fighting mode and desperate to win!

15...Bd7 16.Nb5 Bxb5?! 17.cxb5 ±;

15...Bb7!? 16.Nb5 Rad8 17.f3 Ng5 18.Rac1 e5 =

16.Nb5? The knight gets too far and my bluff has paid off!

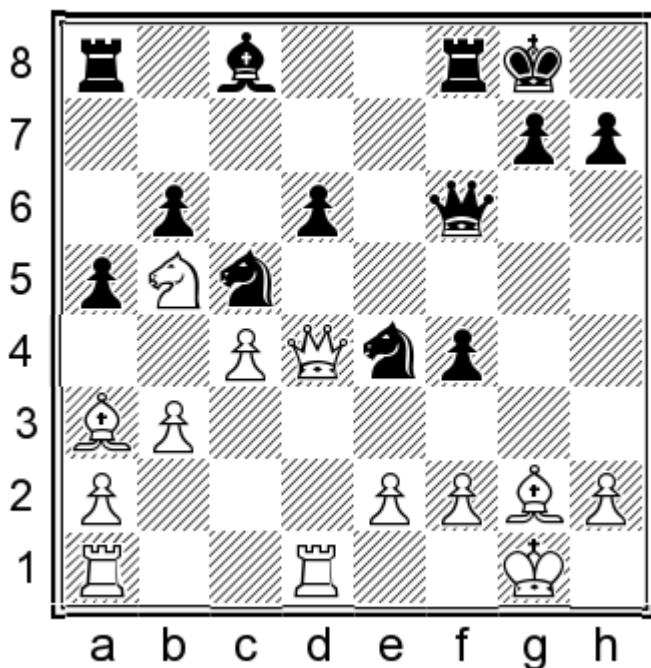
16.Bxe4! Nxe4 (16...exd4 17.Bd5+) 17.Nb5 Rd8 18.Nc7 Rb8 19.f3 Nc5 20.Nd5 Qf8 21.Rd2 ±;

16.Bxc5! bxc5 17.Nb5 Ra6 18.Bxe4 fxe4 19.Rd2! +-

16...f4 17.gxf4

17.Qf3 Bb7 18.Bxc5 Nxc5→

17...exf4 18.Qd4



18.Qf3?? Bb7 19.Bxc5 dxc5- +

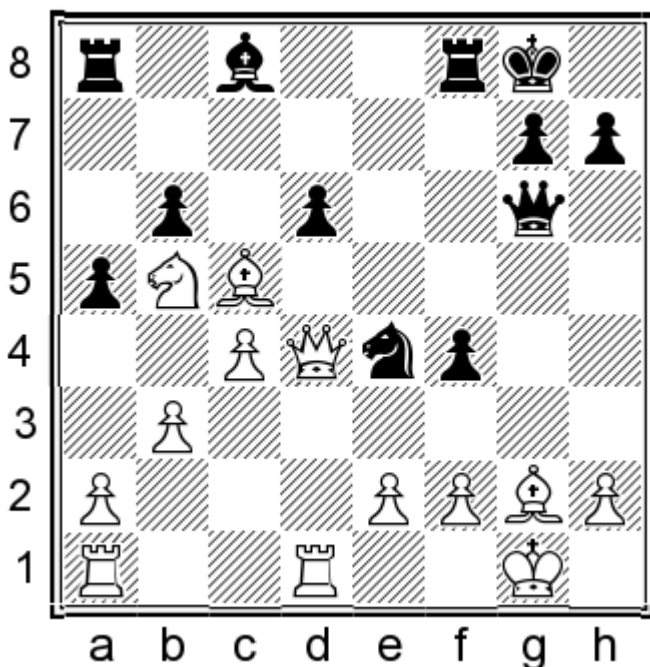
18...Qg6! I need to keep the attack running.

18...Qg5? 19.Qd5+ Qxd5 20.Rxd5 Bb7 21.Rd4 + -;

18...f3 19.Qxf6 Rxf6 20.exf3 Ng5 21.Rxd6 Nxf3+ 22.Bxf3 Rxf3 + -

19.Kh1

19.Bxc5??



19...f3!! 20.exf3 Bh3 21.Kf1 Qxg2+ 22.Ke2 Qxf3+ 23.Ke1 bxc5- +
(23...dxc5- +)

19.Kf1 Bb7 20.f3 Rae8 21.fxe4 Nxe4 22.Bxe4 Bxe4 23.Qg1 (23.Qf2? f3
24.e3 Bd3+ 25.Ke1 Rxe3+ 26.Qxe3 Qg2 (26...Re8? 27.Rxd3 Rxe3+ 28.Rxe3
Qg1+ 29.Kd2 Qxa1 30.Rxf3 Qxa2+ 31.Kc3 =) 27.Qf2 Re8+ 28.Kd2 Qxf2+-
+) 23...Qf5 24.Nxd6 Qh3+ 25.Kf2 Qe3+ =

19...Bb7

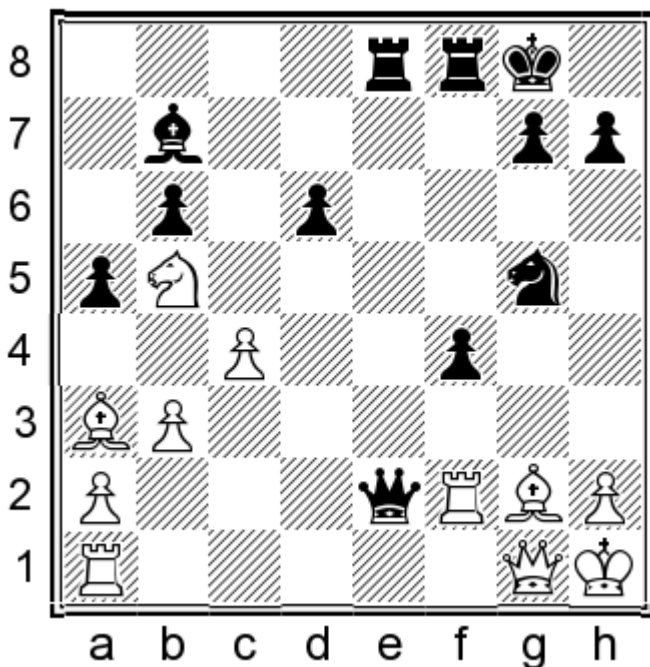
19...f3 20.exf3 + - doesn't get anywhere.

20.f3

20.Rg1?? Ne6 (20...Qf6?? 21.Bxe4! (21.Qxf6?? Nxf2#) 21...Qxd4 22.Nxd4
Nxe4 23.f3 ±) 21.Qxb6 (21.Bxe4 Bxe4+ 22.f3 Nxd4 23.Rxg6 Nxb5- +)
21...Ra6 22.Bxe4 Bxe4+ 23.f3 Rxb6 24.Rxg6 Bxg6- +

20...Ng3+!?

20...Rae8! 21.Nxd6 (21.fxe4? Nxe4 22.Rd3 Qh5 23.Qg1 Qxe2 24.Rf3 Ng5 25.Rf2



25...f3!!- +) 21...Ng3+ 22.hxg3 Rxe2 23.g4 Qg5 24.Kg1 Qh4 25.Kf1 Rxcg2 26.Kxg2 Qg3+ 27.Kf1 Bxf3 28.Qf2 Bxd1 29.Rxd1 Qxg4=

21.hxg3

21.Kg1 Nxe2+- +

21...Rae8

21...Ne4?? 22.Kg1!! Nxg3 23.Qd3 Qh5 24.Bxd6 Rae8 25.e4! +-

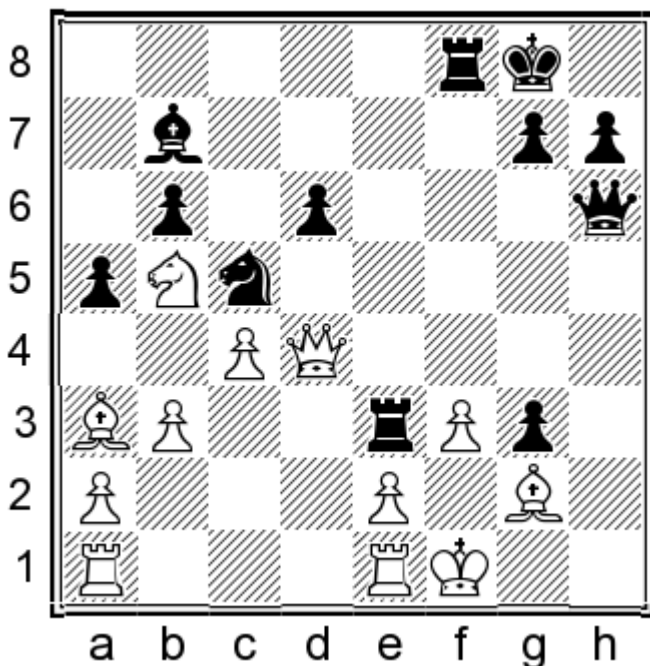
22.Re1??

22.Rd2 Re4!! 23.Qxd6 (23.fxe4 Qh5+ 24.Kg1 fxg3- +) 23...Re6 24.Qd4 Re4=

22...Qh6+??

22...Qh5+! 23.Kg1 fxg3 24.Nxd6 (24.Kf1 Ne6 25.Qg1 Bxf3 26.exf3 Rxf3+ 27.Ke2) 24...Ne6! 25.Qd2 Nf4 26.Nxe8 (26.e4 Qh2+ 27.Kf1 Nxg2 28.Qxg2 Rxf3+ 29.Qxf3 g2+ 30.Qxg2 Rf8+ 31.Ke2 Qxg2+) 26...Qh2+ 27.Kf1 Qxg2#

23.Kg1 fxg3 24.Kf1 Re3?



24...Ne6? 25.Qg1 Ng5 26.Bxd6 + -;

24...Bc8 25.Red1 Bh3 26.Qg1 + -;

24...Ne4 25.Rad1 Ng5 26.Qg1 + -;

24...Re5! 25.Bc1 Qh5 26.Bb2 Bc8! 27.Qg1 Bh3 28.Nd4 Re4! ∞ and after this long series of computer moves the position remains unclear. In general, it is hard to play with both colours, though White feels a bit more pressure because her only moves are supposed to save the king.

25.Bb2??

25.Bc1?? Bxf3 26.exf3 Rxf3+ 27.Bxf3 Qh3+! 28.Kg1 (28.Bg2 Qf5+ 29.Kg1 Rxe1+) 28...Rxe1#;

25.Bxc5 bxc5 (25...dxc5 26.Qg4; 25...Bxf3 26.exf3 Rxf3+ 27.Bxf3 Qh3+ 28.Bg2 Qf5+ 29.Kg1 Qf2+ 30.Kh1 Rxe1+ 31.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 32.Qg1 + -) 26.Qg4 Bc8 27.Qxg3 Re6 ∞ ;

25.Nxd6! Bxf3 (25...Bc6 26.Red1 (26.Bc1 Rxf3+ (26...Bxf3? 27.exf3 Rxf3+ 28.Bxf3 Rxf3+ 29.Ke2 + -) 27.exf3 Rxf3+ 28.Ke2 (28.Bxf3 Qh3+ 29.Ke2 (29.Kg1 Qh2+ 30.Kf1 g2+ + -)) 28...Qh2 (28...Rf2+ 29.Qxf2 gxf2 30.Bxh6 + -) 29.Kd1 (29.Bd2 Qh5; 29.Qg1 Rf2+ + -))) 26.exf3 Rxf3+ 27.Bxf3 Rxf3+ (27...Qh3+ 28.Bg2 Rf3+ 29.Ke2 Qxg2+ 30.Kd1 Rd3+ 31.Qxd3 Nxd3 32.Re8#) 28.Ke2 Rf2+ 29.Kd1 Qh5+ 30.Kc1 + -

25...Bxf3!

25...Ne6! also works. 26.Qxd6 (26.Qg4 Qh2! 27.Bd4 (27.Qh3 Rfxf3+ 28.exf3 Rxf3+ 29.Ke2 (29.Bxf3 Qf2#) 29...Nf4+- +) 27...Nxd4 28.Nxd4 Bc8- + ; 26.Qxb6 Bxf3 27.exf3 Rfxf3+ 28.Bxf3 Qh3+ 29.Bg2 Rf3+ 30.Ke2 Qxg2+ 31.Kd1 Qxb2 32.Qb8+ Nf8- +) 26...Qh2 27.Qxb6 Nf4- +

26.exf3

26.Qxg7+ Qxg7 27.Bxg7 Bxg2+ 28.Kxg2 Kxg7;

26.Bxf3 Qh1#

26...Rfxf3+ 27.Bxf3 Rxf3+?? The blunder that prevented me from scoring the IM norm.

27...Qh3+! 28.Bg2 Rf3+ 29.Ke2 Qxg2+ 30.Kd1 Rd3+ 31.Qxd3 Nxd3 32.Re8+ Kf7 33.Nxd6+ Kg6 34.Re6+ Kh5 35.Bc3 (35.Bxg7 Nb4 36.Re5+ Kg6- +) 35...Nf2+ 36.Kc1 Qf1+ 37.Kc2 g2- +

28.Ke2 Rf2+

28...Qh2+ 29.Kxf3 + -

29.Kd1 Qh5+ 30.Kc1 Qg5+ 31.Kd1 Qh5+ 32.Kc1 Qg5+ 1/2-1/2

SHINE AND POVERTY OF DOUBLE PAWNS

By GM Michael Prusikin

Double pawns devalue our pawn structure and should be avoided. In most cases, this old strategical rule is obviously correct. The drawbacks of the double pawns are more or less obvious to each skilled chess player - they could easily become weak, since they can't protect each other. Furthermore, double pawns are less mobile than a "healthy" pawn chain. On the other hand, in some specific positions double pawn are able to bring some benefits, such as open files for the major pieces (see games 1. and 3.), or an access to some weak squares in the opponent's camp (see game 3.). Also, double pawns could be useful in protection of some important central squares.

Let us start with a recently played game. I was quite impressed by my young opponent's play, I must admit.

D10

Prusikin, Michael (2547) - Dragnev, Valentin (2559)
tornelo.com (Internet), 2021

Michael Prusikin

• **Country:** Germany

• **Born:** 1978

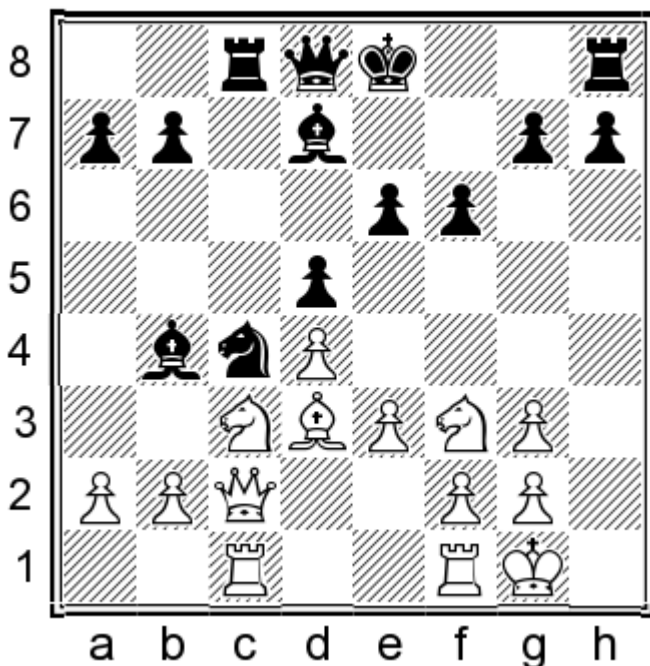
• **Rating:** 2547

• **Peak rating:** 2571

• **Title:** Grandmaster since 2004



1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Bf4 Nc6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bf5 7.Qb3 Na5 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qc2 e6 10.Bd3 Rc8 11.Nf3 Bb4 12.O-O Nh5 13.Be5 f6 14.Bg3 Nc4 15.Rac1 Nxd3 16.hxd3



16...Nd6! A strong move which was prepared by my opponent at home.

16...Bxc3?! 17.bxc3 g6 18.e4² Xiong,Jeffery 2709 - Bu,Xiangzhi 2705, chess24.com (Internet-blitz) 2020

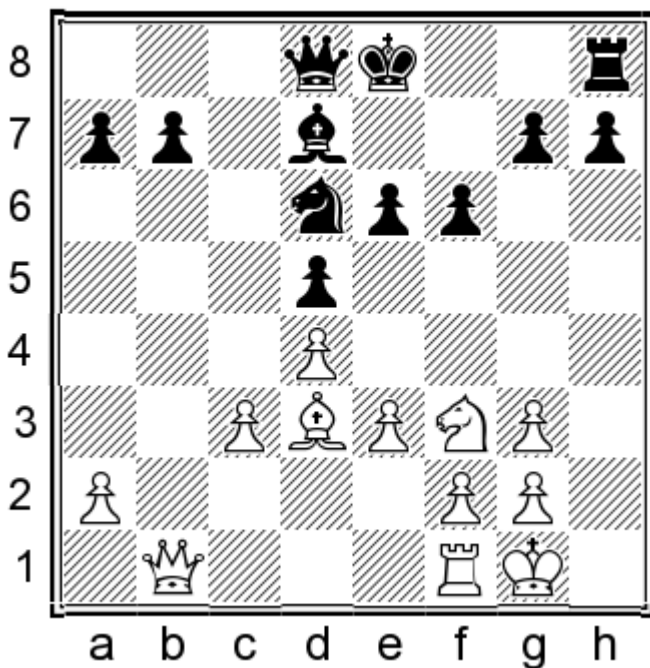
16...Qa5 17.e4! Nxb2 18.Qxb2 Bxc3 19.Qxb7²

17.Qb1?!N Novelty. A spineless reaction.

There were two better options: 17.e4!? dxe4 18.Bxe4 Nxe4 19.Qxe4 Bxc3
White's activity forces Black to give up the bishop pair. 20.bxc3
(Dutra,Alfredo - Figlio,Gino Franco, corr 2018/19) 20...b5 = ;

17.Qb3!? Bxc3 (I was afraid of 17...Qa5? but this move is simply bad:
18.Nxd5! exd5 19.a3 ±) 18.Rxc3 Rxc3 19.Qxc3 (Fleetwood,Daniel -
Tlepsok,Ruslan, corr 2020) 19...Kf7 =

17...Bxc3 18.Rxc3 Rxc3 19.bxc3

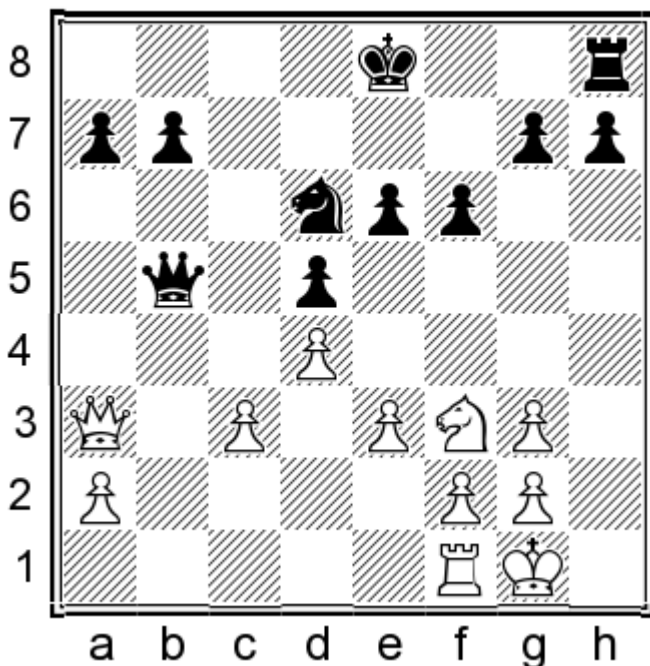


19...Qb6! A very strong decision which I underestimated completely!

20.Qb3

20.Qxb6?! axb6 21.Rb1 b5³ leads to a highly remarkable situation: the isolated black double pawns are perfectly protected by his minor pieces, whereas White's pawns on a2 and c3 are in real trouble.

20...Bb5! 21.Bxb5+ Qxb5 22.Qa3



22...Qa6! Dragnev exploits the same motif for the second time! This is mean but unfortunately not forbidden by the rules!

23.Qxa6 Now there was no real alternative to this exchange.

23...bxa6 24.Nd2 Ke7 25.Rb1 Rc8 26.Rb3 Kd7 27.Ra3?! A way too ambitious!

Passive defence was called for: 27.Kf1 Nb5 28.Nb1 Rc4 29.Rb4 =

27...Rc6 28.Nb3 Nc4

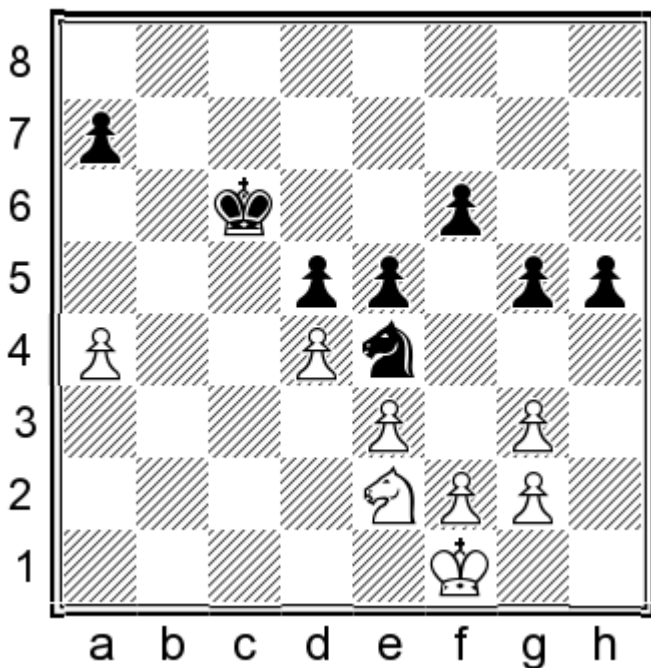
27.Ra3 was too brave, but **29.Rxa6?** is pure madness.

By playing 29.Ra4 a5 30.Nxa5 Ra6 31.Nb3 Rxa4 32.Nc5+ Kc6 33.Nxa4 Nd2 34.Nc5 e5 35.Ne6 = I could have got the position from the game while saving an extra tempo!

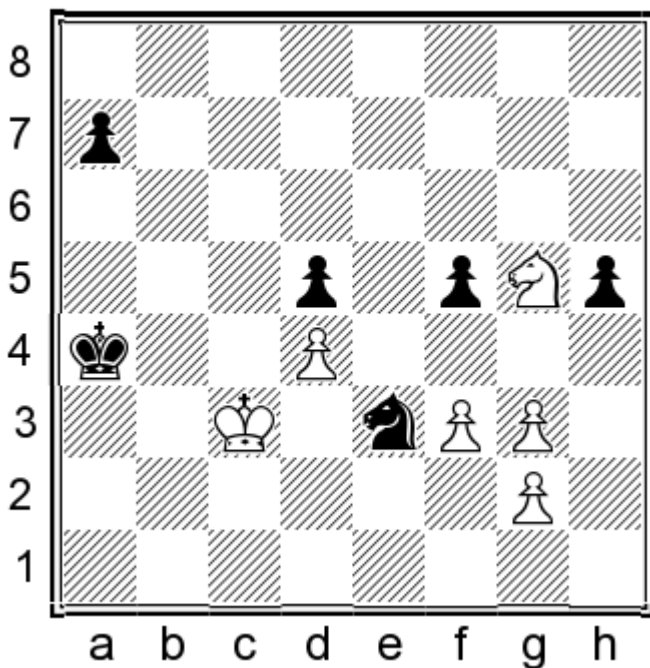
29...Rxa6 30.Nc5+ Kd6 31.Nxa6 Nd2- + Despite the missing pawn, this knight endgame is winning for Black.

32.Nc5 Nb1 33.Na4

Much more stubborn, but also hopeless was 33.Kf1! Nxc3 34.a4 Ne4 35.Nd3 h5! 36.Nf4 (36.Ke1 g5- +) 36...e5! 37.Ne2 (37.Nxh5? g6 38.dxe5+ fxe5 39.Ng7 Ke7- +) 37...Kc6 38.Ke1 g5! 39.Kf1!



The analysis of this tricky knight endgame was both fascinating and instructive for me! To get the full point Black is forced to find a few only moves in a row. 39...exd4! 40.exd4 f5! 41.f3 Nf6 42.Nc1 Kb6 43.Nb3 Ne8 44.Ke2 Nd6 45.Kd3 Nc4 46.Nc5 Ka5 47.Ne6 Kxa4 48.Kc3 Ne3 49.Nxg5

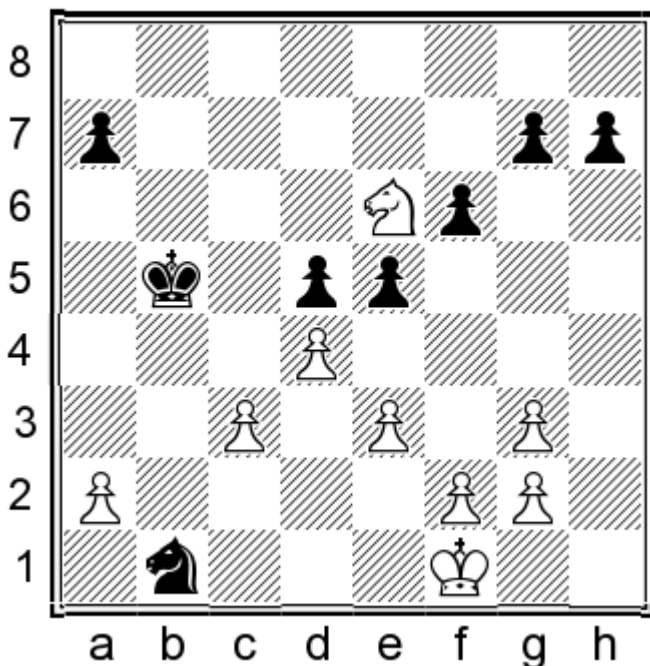


At the end of the day White is lost because of his double pawns: 49...f4!!
 50.g4 (50.gxf4 h4!! (50...Nxc2? 51.f5 =) 51.Kd2 Nf5- +) 50...h4!! 51.Nh3
 Nxc2 52.g5 Ne3 53.g6 Nf5 54.Nxf4 Kb5- +

33...Kc6 34.Kf1 Kb5 35.Nc5 e5

35...Nxc3 36.Nxe6 Nxa2 37.Nxg7 Kc4 38.Ke2 a5 39.Kd2 a4 40.Kc2 a3- +
 was the more direct way to the victory.

36.Ne6



36...Nxc3?

36...e4! 37.Nxg7 Nxc3- +

Black stumbles shortly before the end, but... **37.Nxg7?** I generously refused to take the opportunity!

37.dxe5! fxe5 38.Nxg7 Nxa2 39.f4 =

37...exd4 38.exd4 Nxa2- + 39.Ke2 Kc4 40.Ne8 Kxd4 41.Nxf6 Nc3+ 42.Kd2 Ne4+ 43.Nxe4 0-1

C28

Lagarde, Maxime (2638) - Prusikin, Michael (2547)
tornelo.com (Internet), 2021

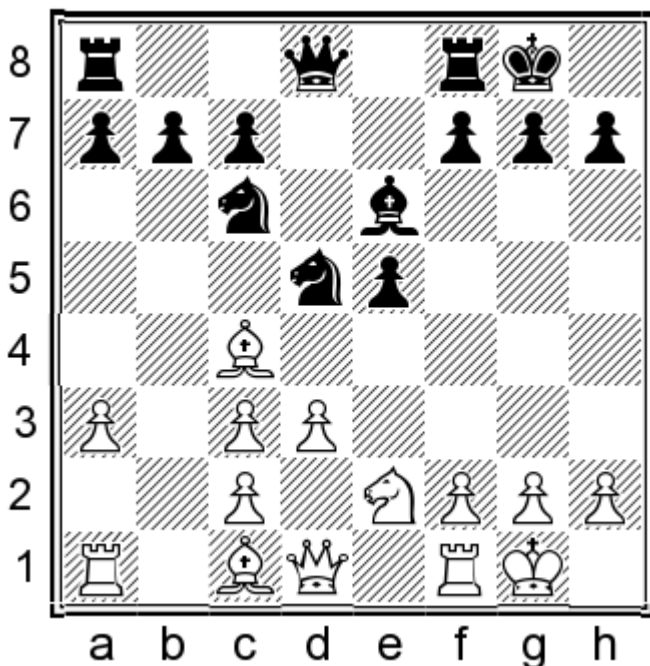
1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 Nc6 4.Nc3 Bb4 In my opinion this is the easiest way to equalise.

4...Na5!? is more combative.

5.Ne2 d5 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.O-O Be6 8.a3!? A rare, but playable move.

The main continuation is **8.Bxd5 Bxd5 9.f4 f6 =** - promises nothing.

8...Bxc3 9.bxc3 O-O



10.Bb3!? Novelty. With this move Maxime starts an ambitious plan: he wants to clear the a1-h8 diagonal for his dark-squared bishop which doesn't have its rival and to checkmate the Black on g7.

10...Qh4 My first idea was to put the queen on Qd7!?, which retrospectively might have been a better decision.

11.Qd2?! Consistent, but probably inaccurate. The queen is not very well placed on the half open d-file.

11.Rb1 b6 12.f4 Nxf4 13.Nxf4 exf4 14.Bxf4 Qe7 =

11...Rad8 12.c4

12.Qg5 Qxg5 13.Bxg5 f6 14.Bd2 Kf7³

12...Nde7 13.f4 e4 14.Bb2 Now, White is almost at the destination of his dreams, but he paid a heavy price for reaching his goals: the pawn on d3 is very vulnerable and there is no mate in sight.

14...Nf5 15.Rae1 Qg4

I was also thinking about 15...h5!?³ which was probably a better choice.

16.d4?! Qf6!μ

16.Ng3?!

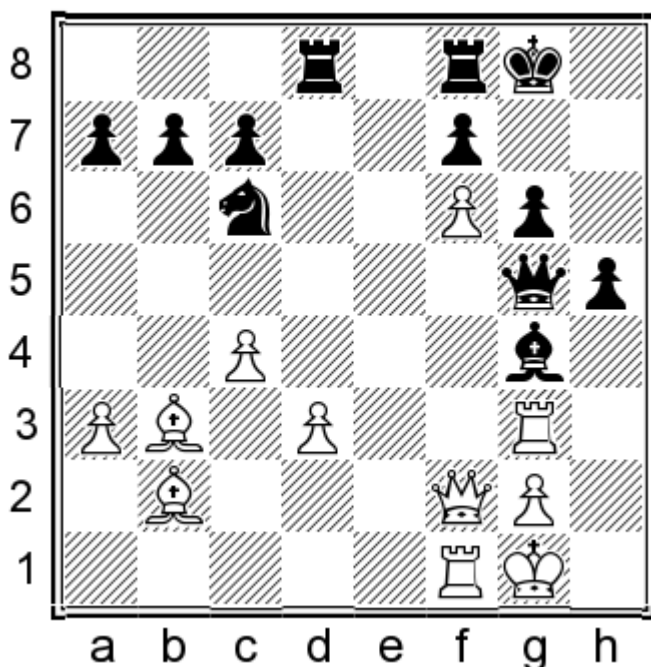
16.d4!? was called for, with good chances for equality, but my opponent is

still dreaming of mating me.

16...Nxg3 17.hxg3 exd3!?

17...Bf5!? 18.Re3 Qg6³, to play without any risk, was a very tempting option, but at last the greed won and I grabbed the pawn!

18.cxd3 Qxg3 19.Re3 Qg6 20.Qf2 Bg4 21.Rg3 h5 22.f5 Qg5 23.f6 g6



24.Bc1? The losing move. White has a sufficient compensation for the sacrificed pawn.

There were a few ways to maintain the balance. The most "human" of them seems to be

24.Re1 =

24...Qh4- + 25.Be3 Rfe8

25...Nd4!? 26.Bxd4 Rxd4 27.Qxd4 (27.Qe3 Rd6!) 27...Qxg3- +

26.Qf4

26.Ba4 Re5 27.Bxc6 bxc6 28.Bf4 Rf5 29.Re3 Qxf2+ 30.Rxf2 Rb8 31.Re7 Rb3- +

26...g5 27.Qf2

27.Qxg5+ Qxg5 28.Bxg5 Nd4 29.Bd1 Bxd1 30.Rxd1 Ne2+- +

27...Nd4 28.Bd1

28.Bxd4 Re2 29.Rh3 Bxh3 (29...Rxf2?? 30.Bxf2) 30.Qxe2 Qxd4+ 31.Rf2 Bg4- +

28...Nf5 29.Rxg4 Qxf2+

29...hxg4- +

**30.Rxf2 hxg4 31.Rxf5 Rxe3 32.Rxg5+ Kh7 33.Bxg4 Kh6 34.Rg7 Rg3
35.Kh2 Rdx3 36.a4 b6 37.Rg8 a5 38.Rg7 c5 39.Rg8 Rge3 40.Rg7 Rd6
41.Rxf7 Kg6 42.Re7 Rxe7 43.fxe7 Kf7 44.Bc8 Kxe7 45.Ba6 Kf6 46.Kh3
Kg5 47.g3 Rd2 48.Bc8 Rc2 49.Ba6 Rb2 50.Bb5 Rxb5 0-1**

E11

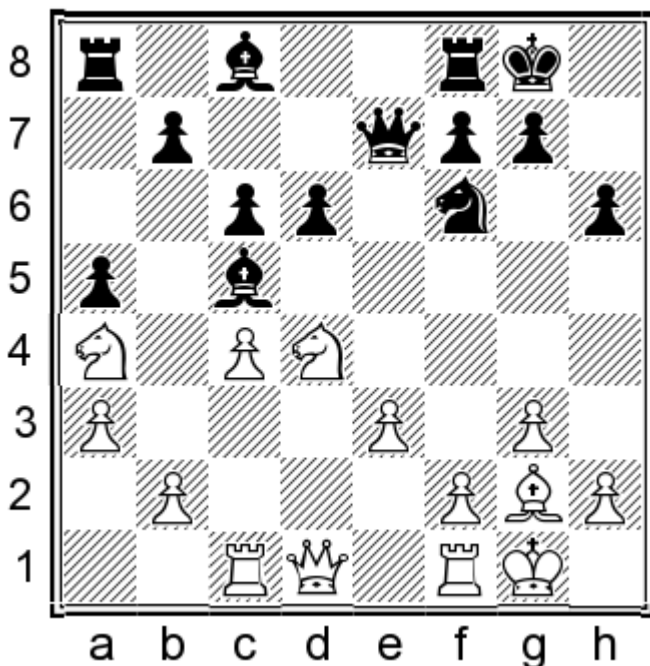
**Gheorghiu, Florin (2378) - Prusikin, Michael (2530)
Schweiz, 2016**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 a5 5.g3 d6 6.Bg2 Nbd7 7.O-O e5 8.Bg5
exd4 9.Nxd4 O-O 10.a3 Bc5 11.Nc3 h6 12.Bxf6 Nxf6 13.Rc1** After the
game my famous opponent criticised this move.

13.Na4 led to a position which was very similar to those from our game:
13...c6 14.Nxc5 dxc5 15.Nf3 Bf5³ Dreev,Alexey 2607 - Kogan,Artur 2590,
Benidorm (rapid) 2007

Gheorghiu suggested 13.Rb1!? instead, but in my opinion 13.Rb1 isn't a
mistake. 13...a4 14.e3 Bg4 15.Qc2 = Munkhgal,Gombosuren 2316 -
Mahjoob,Morteza 2514, Guangzhou 2010

13...c6 14.e3 Qe7 15.Na4



15...Re8! The exclamation mark stands for the idea to give the bishop on c5 instead of moving it to a7.

15...Ba7 16.b4 axb4 17.axb4 =

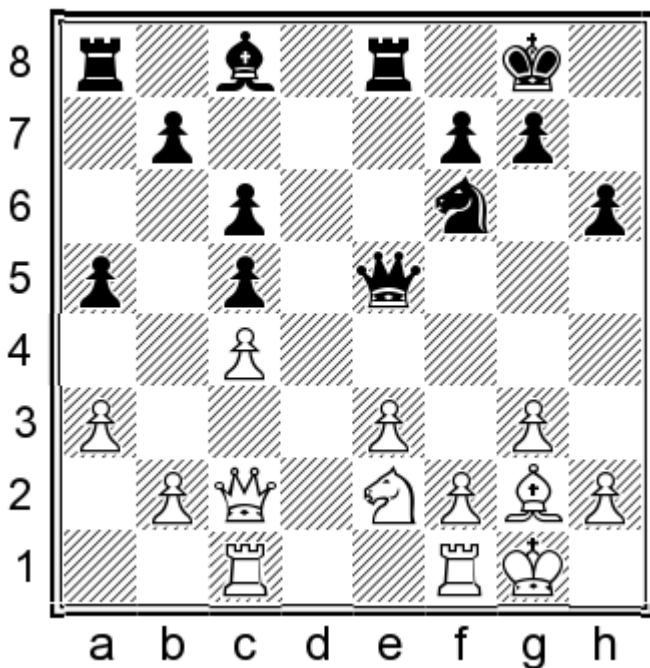
16.Qc2 Qe5 17.Nxc5?! This exchange leads to a position with a slight edge for Black.

By maintaining the tension White could have kept the balance: 17.Rfd1 Bg4 18.Rd2 =

17...dxc5 18.Ne2

Despite the fact that a hypothetical pawn endgame would be lost for Black, he is better now. His minor pieces are better placed, while the b2-pawn and the d3 and b3 squares are weak. Furthermore, White's pawn majority on the kingside is very difficult to mobilise.

18.Nf3 Qf5!³



18...Bf5 19.Qc3 Qe7!³

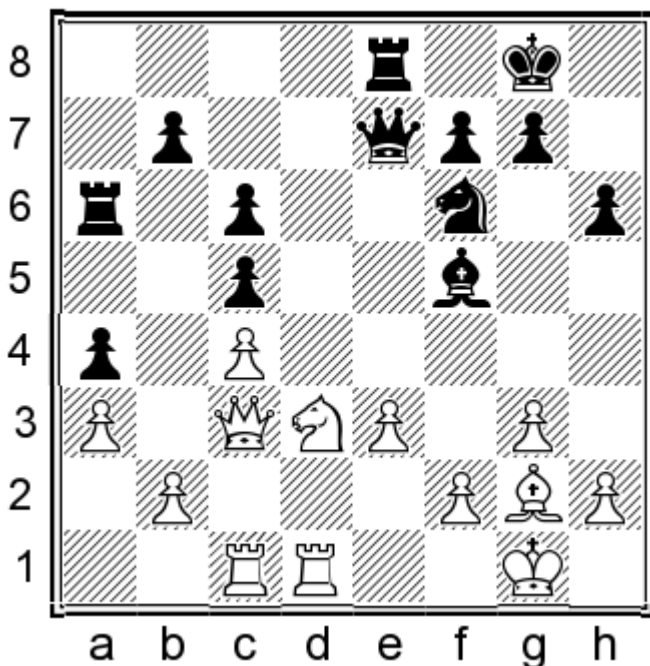
Black doesn't need the queens on the board, but it is essential to keep White's knight away from c3: 19...Qxc3?! 20.Nxc3 Bd3 21.Rfe1 a4 (21...Bxc4?! 22.Na4 =) 22.Bf1 Bxf1 23.Rxf1 =

20.Rfd1 Ra6?! A very tempting, but ill-timed manoeuvre.

Preferable was: 20...a4!?

³

21.Nf4 a4 22.Nd3



22.Re1! Ne4 23.Qc2 seems to equalize, since 23...Nxg3? fails because of 24.e4, but it's definitely not a human way of playing.

22...h5! Opening a second front on the kingside.

22...Rb6 23.Qa5 Rb3 24.Bf1 Bg4 25.Qxa4 Bxd1 26.Rxd1 Rb6 27.Qa7 ∞

23.Re1 Bxd3! Gaining the superior couple of pieces. Black's queen and knight are interacting much better than White's queen and bishop.

24.Qxd3 Rb6 25.Re2

25.Qc2 h4 26.Qxa4 Rxb2 27.Rb1 Rd2 28.Rbd1 Rd8 29.Rxd2 Rxd2³

25...Rd8 26.Qc2 Rb3μ 27.Rd1 Rxd1+ 28.Qxd1 g6 29.Rd2 Qe5?! Moving the wrong piece to the right square.

Much stronger was 29...Ng4!μ with huge advantage for Black.

30.Qc2 = h4 31.Bf3?† In the looming time trouble both sides start making serious mistakes.

White was more or less forced to take the pawn: 31.gxh4TM =

31...h3! 32.Kf1! Kg7 33.Ke2 g5! 34.Kd1 g4 35.Bh1 Kh6? This time it's the right piece - but it is moving into the wrong direction!

35...Kf8! 36.Kc1 Ke7 37.Rd3 Rxd3 38.Qxd3 Ne8! 39.Qc2 Nd6 40.Qxa4 Qe6³ would have secured Black a clearly better position.

36.Kc1 Kg5?

36...Qe6 37.Rd8 Nd7 38.Rh8+ Kg7 39.Qh7+ Kf6 =

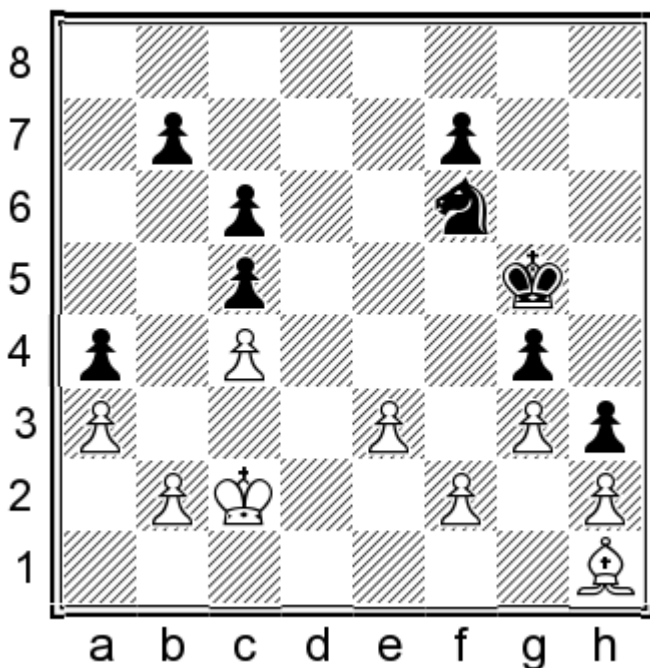
37.Rd3?

By playing the simple move 37.Rd8 ± Gheorghiu could have picked up the pawn on a4 without any compensation for me.

37...Rxd3 38.Qxd3 Qf5! 39.Qc2? Still in time trouble, my opponent misjudged the consequences of the queen swap.

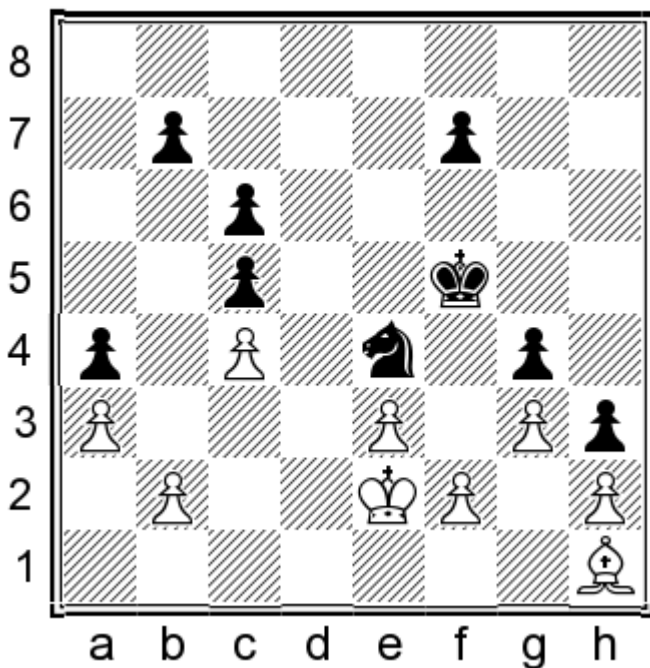
39.Qe2 = was called for.

39...Qxc2+ 40.Kxc2 This position is won for Black but the endgame is extremely difficult to handle.



40...Nd7? When I annotated this game for the first time back in 2016, I considered this move to be winning, but unfortunately it doesn't.

40...Kf5! leads to a study-like win: 41.Kd2 Ne4+ 42.Ke2



42...f6!! the only move! (42...Ke5? 43.f3 gxf3+ 44.Bxf3 =) 43.f4 (43.f3 Nd6!- +) 43...b5 44.Kf1 bxc4 45.Ke2 c3 46.bxc3 c4! 47.Kf1 (47.Ke1 c5 48.Bxe4+ Kxe4 49.Ke2 f5- +) 47...Nxc3 48.Bxc6 Ke6 49.Ke1 Kd6 50.Be8 f5! 51.Kd2 Ne4+ 52.Ke1 Nxc3- +

41.b3!

41.f3 gxf3 42.Bxf3 Ne5 43.Be2 Ng4- +

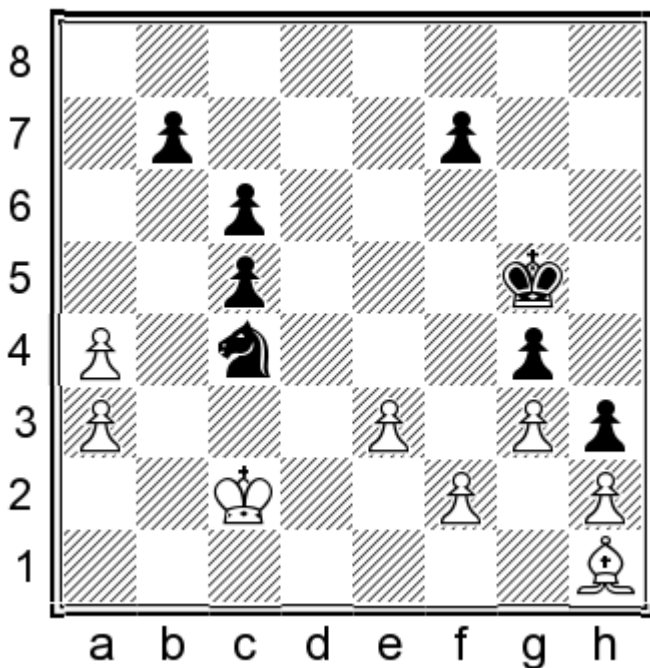
41...Ne5

41...axb3+ 42.Kxb3 Ne5 43.a4 =

42.bxa4!

42.Kc3 axb3 43.Kxb3 b5 44.cxb5 cxb5 45.a4 c4+ 46.Ka3 bxa4 47.Kxa4 Nd3- +

42...Nxc3



43.Kc3? The decisive mistake!

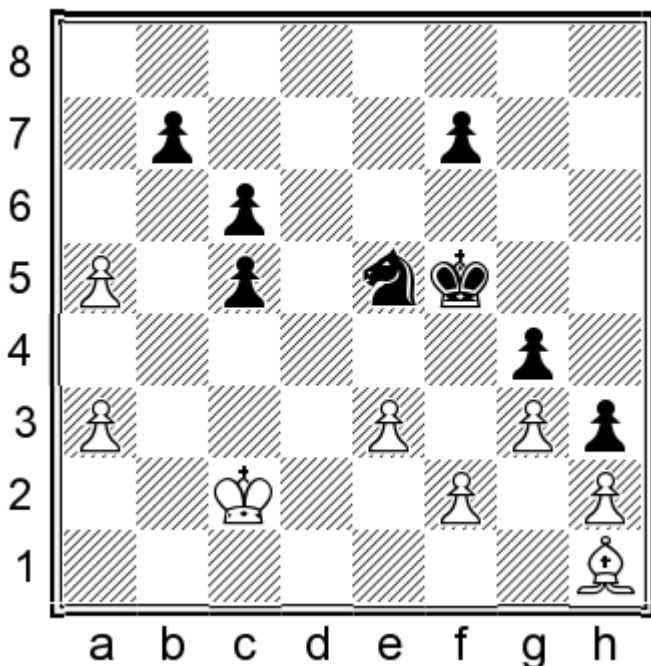
43.Be4! Kf6 (43...Ne5 44.a5! =) 44.Kc3! Ne5 45.a5! Ke6 46.Kc2! Believe it or not, but this is a position of mutual zugzwang - there is no win with Black to move! 46...c4 47.Kd2! f6 48.a4! f5 49.Bh1 Kd6 50.e4 fxe4 51.Bxe4 Kc5 52.Kc3 =

43...Ne5- + 44.a5

44.Be4 b6!- +

44...Kf5 45.a4

45.Kc2



45...Kf6!! (45...Ke6? 46.Be4 =) 46.Be4 Ke6 The position mentioned above, but this time White is to move! 47.Kc1 f5 48.Bh1 Nc4 (48...Nd3+? 49.Kd2 Nxf2 50.Bxc6!) 49.a6 bxa6 50.Bxc6 Nxa3 51.Bb7 Nc4 52.Bxa6 Nd6- +

45...Ke6 46.Kb3 Kd6!

46...f5? 47.Kc3 Kd6 48.e4 =

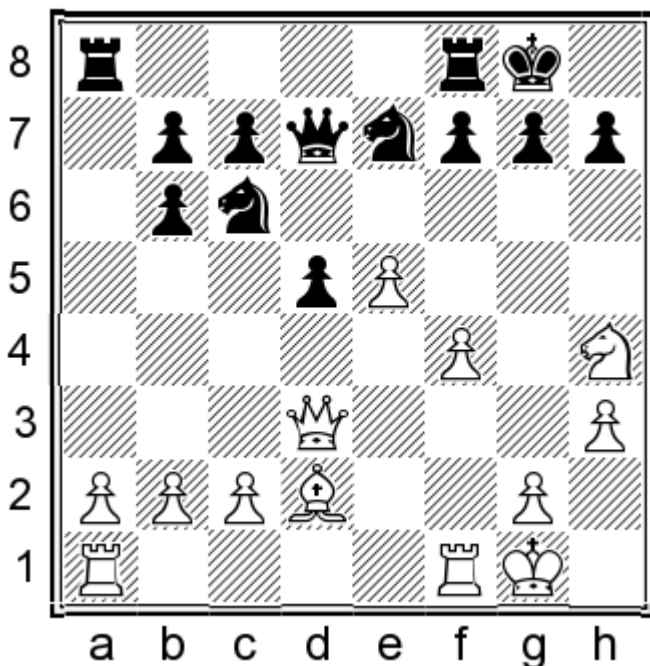
47.Be4 Kc7 48.Bf5

48.a6 bxa6 49.a5 Kd6 50.Kc3 c4 51.Kd4 Ke6 52.Kc3 f5 53.Bh1 Kd6 54.e4 Nd3- +

48...Kb8 49.Kc3 Ka7 50.f4 gxf3 51.Bxh3 f2 52.Kd2 Nf3+ 53.Ke2

53.Kd1 c4 54.Bg2 Nxh2 55.Ke2 c3- +

53...Ng1+ 54.Kxf2 Nxh3+ 55.Kg2 c4 0-1



White is threatening to push forward his kingside majority by playing 18.Rae1 and 19.f5.

17...Ra4! Miles finds a great possibility to slow down his opponent's attack, as he benefits from his double pawns on the b-file!

17...f5 isn't sufficient to stop this plan, since 18.exf6! Rxf6 19.f5 ± still promises White a dangerous attack against the black king.

18.Bc3

18.Nf3 Qf5 = ; 18.Rae1 Rd4! =

18...Ng6! The next strong move! White is now forced to take on g6, since not only his knight, but also the pawn on f4 is attacked.

19.Nxg6 fxg6! Still putting the f4-pawn under pressure.

20.g3

20.Rad1 Ne7 21.Bd2 Qf5³

20...Ne7 21.Kh2 h5! Now White's pawn majority is successfully taken under control. The position remains equal, but White's practical task is much more difficult.

22.b3 Re4 23.Rae1 Qc6 24.Bd2 Nf5 25.Qc3?!

25.g4 Looks risky, but it was the only way to keep the position equal.
 25...hxd4 26.hxd4 Nh6 27.Kg3 Qe6 28.Qf3 g5 29.Rxe4 dxe4 30.Qe2 =

25...h4 26.gxh4

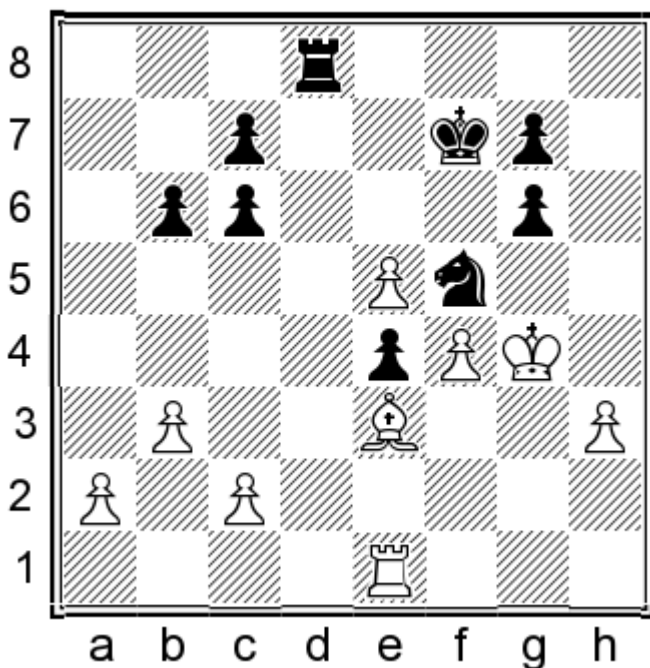
26.Qxc6? hxd3+- +

26...Nxd3?! This is a fundamental mistake. Once again, Black owns the superior couple of pieces.

Furthermore, White's king is going to become very weak, so Miles should have avoided the queens exchange by playing

26...Qe6!³

27.Qxc6 bxc6 28.Kg3 Nf5+ 29.Kg4 Kf7 30.Rxe4 dxe4 31.Re1 Rd8 32.Be3



32.Bc3 e3 33.Kf3 =

32...Rd1! A nice blow, unfortunately without a decisive effect.

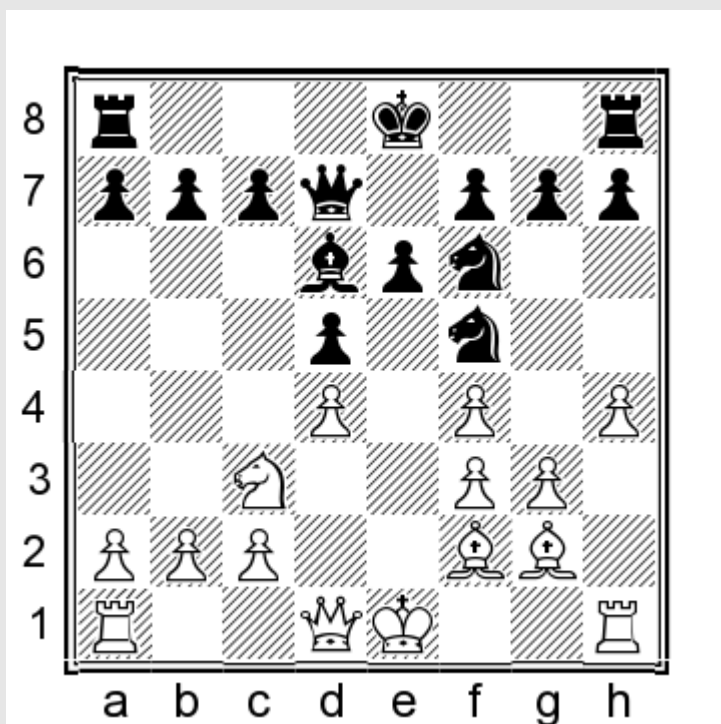
33.Re2 Ke6 34.Bf2 Rf1 35.a4 c5 36.a5? This move loses the game.

White's position was still defensible after: 36.h4! c6 37.c3! =

**36...bxa5 37.Kg5 Rh1 38.Bxc5 Rxh3 39.Kxg6 Rg3+ 40.Kh7 e3 41.Kg8 g5
 42.fxg5 Rxg5+ 43.Kh7 Rg7+ 44.Kh8 Rg3 45.Rh2 Kxe5 46.Ba3 Rg4
 47.Bb2+ Ke4 48.Bc3 Rh4+ 49.Rxh4+ Nxd3 50.Bxa5 e2 51.Kg7 Nf3 52.Kf6
 Ke3 0-1**

We will conclude this article with some exercises:

Zwaig, Arne (2450) - Miles, Anthony (2555)
Hastings 1976/77, 1976



What is the best move for Black?

Show/Hide Solution

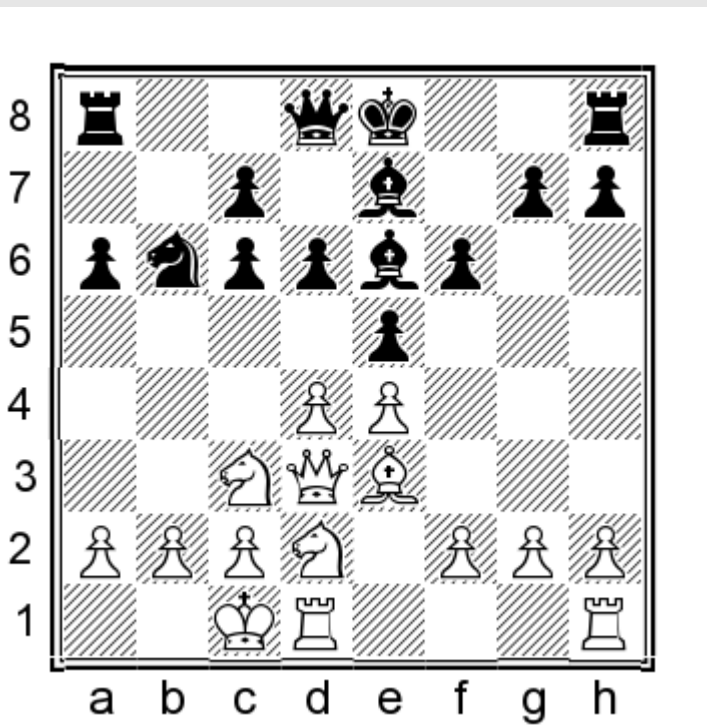
11...Bb4! Creating a new weaknesses.

12.O-O This is a sad necessity.

12.Qd3 Nh5 13.Rh3 Qc6μ

12...Bxc3 13.bxc3 h5 14.Re1 O-O-O 15.Qd3 Nd6μ White's bishops are more or less useless due to the immobile pawn structure. Black's position is strategically winning.

Gufeld, Eduard (2530) - Vladimirov, Yevgeniy (2445)



What is the best way for White to exploit Black's weaknesses?

Show/Hide Solution

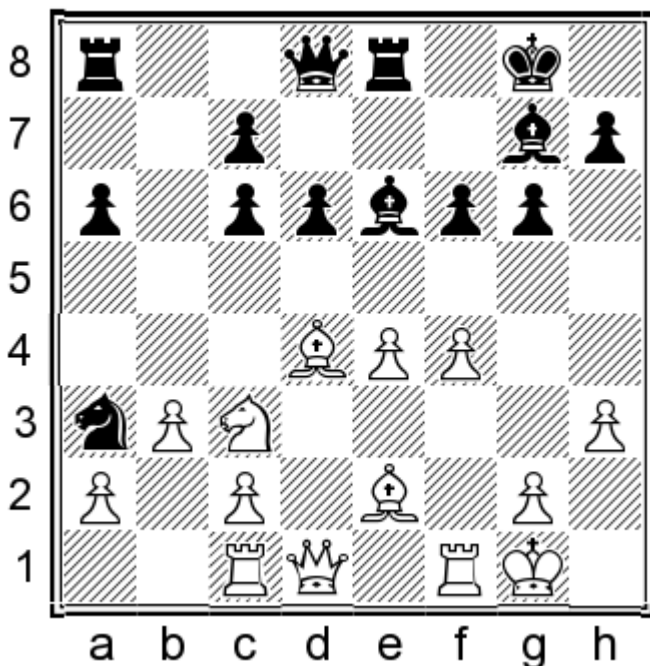
12.d5! Creating new weaknesses by exchanging the old ones!

12...cxd5 13.Bxb6! cxb6

13...dxe4 14.Ndxe4 cxb6 15.Nxd6+ Qxd6 16.Qxd6 Bxd6 17.Rxd6 +-

14.Nxd5 ± The mighty knight on d5 is dominating the whole board!

Gipslis, Aivars (2485) - Alber, Horst (2360)
Frankfurt, 1989



White should be better here, but what is the right way to play?

Show/Hide Solution

18.Na4! A very important prophylactic move. Black threatened to exchange his bad knight and to improve his pawn structure at the same time by playing **18...Nb5** **19.Bb2 c5** **20.Bf3 Rb8** **21.c4 Na7** **22.e5!** + - with a strategically winning position for White.

THE EARLY g-PAWN ADVANCE

PART II

Ivan Ivanišević

- **Country:** Serbia
- **Born:** 1977
- **Rating:** 2606
- **Peak rating:** 2665
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 2000



We continue our journey and explore a few more opening variations where the g4 (or g5) pawn advance plays a key role. Some of the lines are still quite fresh, and unexplored, while some others have been tested for a long time in tournament practice.

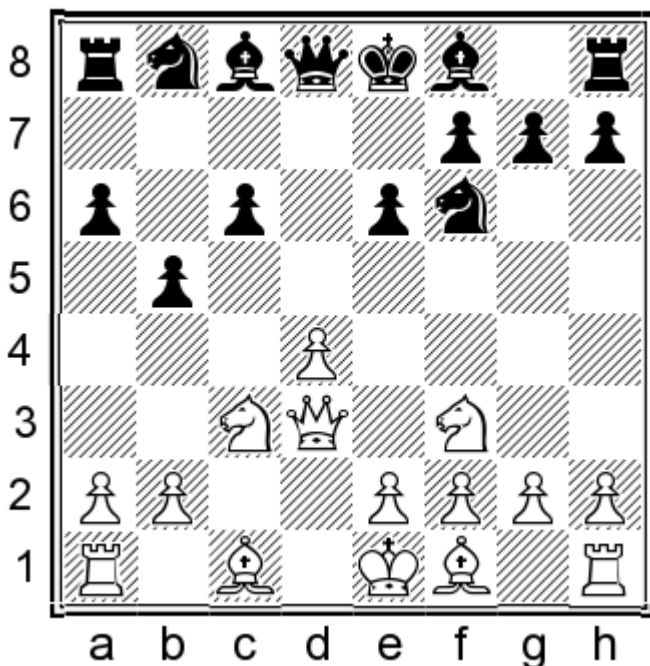
Still, there is plenty of room for improvements and creative play in these variations, so I hope to inspire you to try some of the suggested lines in your own chess duels.

CLOSED GAME

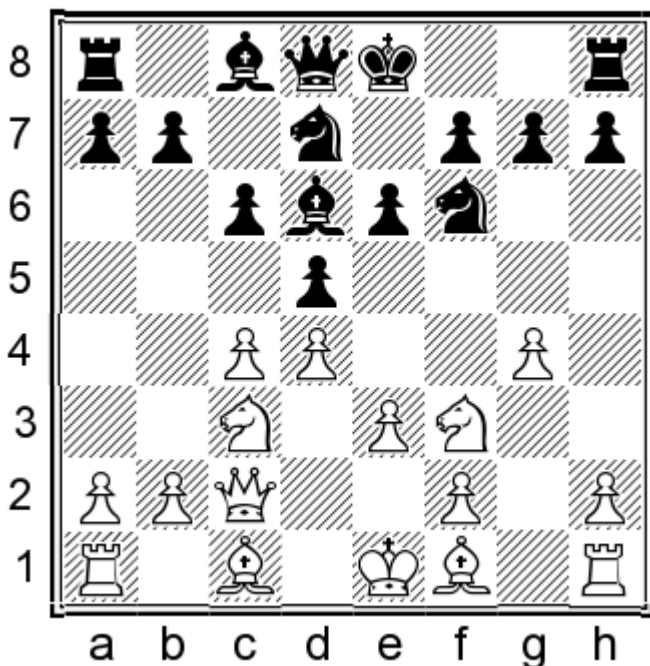
1.d4 d5

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6

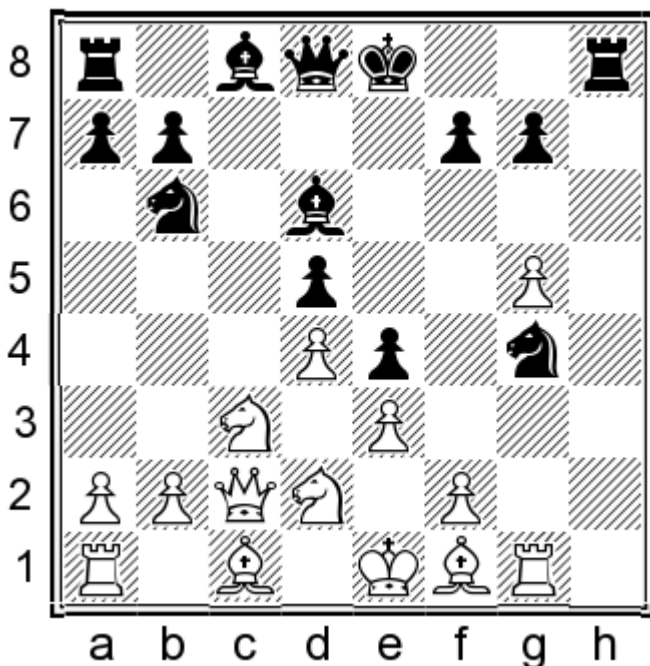
2...c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 (5.Qd3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 b5 7.Qd3 a6



(In old days the main line started with 7...Nbd7 8.e4 b4 9.Na4 reaching some highly complicated positions.) 8.g4!? (8.e4 c5! By playing 7...a6 Black is going for this position.) 8...Bb7 (8...Nxg4 9.Rg1 Nf6 10.e4© (10.Bf4©)) 9.g5 Nh5 (9...Nfd7; 9...Nd5) 10.Bh3 c5 11.Bg4 cxd4!? (11...g6 12.Bxh5 gxh5 13.Ne4 c4 14.Qe3f Matlakov,Maxim 2716 - Najer,Evgeniy 2635, Douglas 2019 - 142/146) 12.Bxh5 Nc6! (12...dxc3? 13.Bxf7+ Ke7 14.Qxd8+ Kxd8 15.Bxe6 +-) 13.Nd1 (13.O-O dxc3 14.Qxc3 b4∞) 13...Nb4 14.Qd2 Rc8 15.O-O Nc2 16.Rb1 Bd6©) 5...Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.g4



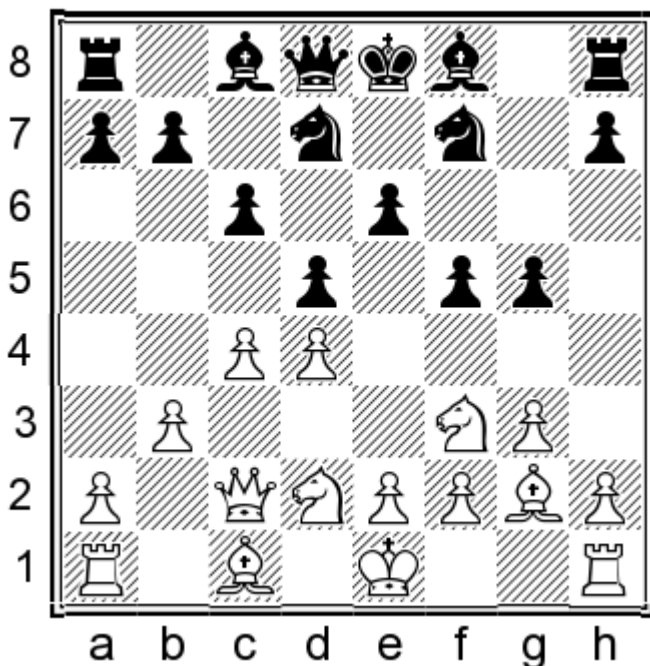
This continuation has long and rich history. Alexei Shirov is surely the most frequent practitioner of this line, but Alexander Shabalov was the first top player to try it out. The ensuing positions are extremely sharp and demanding for both sides, so the most active approach may prove to be the best, as well. 7...h6 with the idea of preventing g5, and also e5 next. I wrote a theoretical survey on this line several years ago. 8.Rg1 e5 9.cxd5 (9.b3!? was one of my suggestions in the aforementioned opening survey.) 9...cxd5 10.h4 e4 11.Nd2 Nb6 (11...g5!?) 12.g5 hxg5 13.hxg5 Reaching the positions which are razor-sharp and requiring precise calculation, as well as good memory. It is no surprise that even the elite players often blunder in the early phase of the game. 13...Ng4?



(Tournament practice witnessed both 13...Ng8; and 13...Nh7) 14.Ndxe4! Bh2 (14...dxe4 15.Qxe4+ Kf8 16.Rxg4 Bxg4 17.Qxg4±) 15.Rg2 Kf8 16.f3 (16.Qe2!?) 16...dxe4 17.fxg4² Suleymanli,Aydin 2512 - Bok,Benjamin 2624, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020

3.Nc3

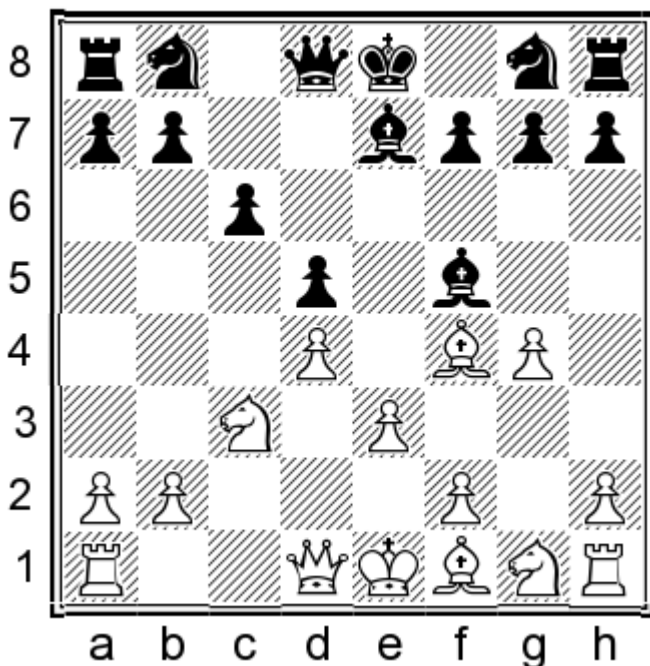
3.Nf3 c6 4.Nbd2 f5 5.g3 The classical Stonewall with the early Nbd2 on White's part is on the board. Richard Rapport finds an interesting idea and abandons the usual schemes. 5...Nd7!? (5...Nf6 6.Bg2 Bd6 is the common treatment of the position.) 6.Bg2 Nh6 7.Qc2 Nf7 Obviously White is not able to exploit the e5-point which is his usual target in the Stonewall structure. 8.b3 (8.cxd5 cxd5 9.O-O Bd6 10.Nb3 O-O 11.Bf4 Bxf4 12.gxf4 Nf6 13.Rfc1 b6=) 8...g5!?



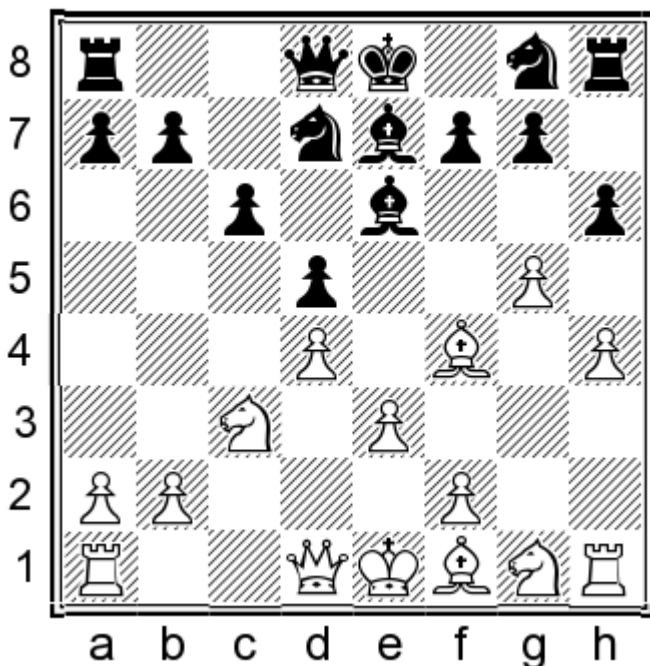
Both Black's knights are protecting the e5-square, while the g5-push shows his aggressive intentions. Both sides are struggling with their weak light-squared bishops. One is biting the granite c6-d5-e6 pawn chain, while the other is behind the wall. In order to activate the bishop White should play f3 and e4 which does not look that easy to execute. On the other hand, Black could use the d7-e8-h5 route, but that is a difficult task as well. Alternatively, Black may try to activate the bishop on the queenside, after a5 and b5 pawn pushes. (8...Bd6) 9.e3 Bd6 10.Bb2 a5,, Rapport won the game in great style! Studer,Noel 2573 - Rapport, Richard 2760, Deutschland 2020

3...Be7 4.Nf3

4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bf4 c6 6.e3 Bf5 (Recently, Black is trying the more solid 6...Bd6) 7.g4



The idea pioneered by Mikhail Botvinnik, the Patriarch of Soviet chess, first used in the match against Tigran V. Petrosian. This idea has many followers up to his day, and is focused on seizing space on the kingside, manoeuvring, and extreme aggression in its more modern versions. 7...Be6 (7...Bg6 8.h4! Bxh4? 9.Qb3 b6 10.Rxh4! Qxh4 11.Nxd5! +-) 8.h4 (8.h3 Nf6 9.Bd3 (9.Nf3 Nbd7 10.Bd3 Nb6 11.Qc2 Nc4 12.Kf1 Nd6 13.Nd2 Qc8 14.Kg2 Nd7 15.f3 g6 16.Rac1² Botvinnik,Mikhail - Petrosian,Tigran V, Moscow (m/18) 1963 (16.e4! ±)) 9...c5 10.Nf3 Nc6 11.Kf1!? O-O 12.Kg2 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.exd4 Nd7 15.Qc2 Nf6 16.f3² Botvinnik,Mikhail - Petrosian,Tigran V, Moscow (m/ 14) 1963) 8...Nd7 9.g5 h6

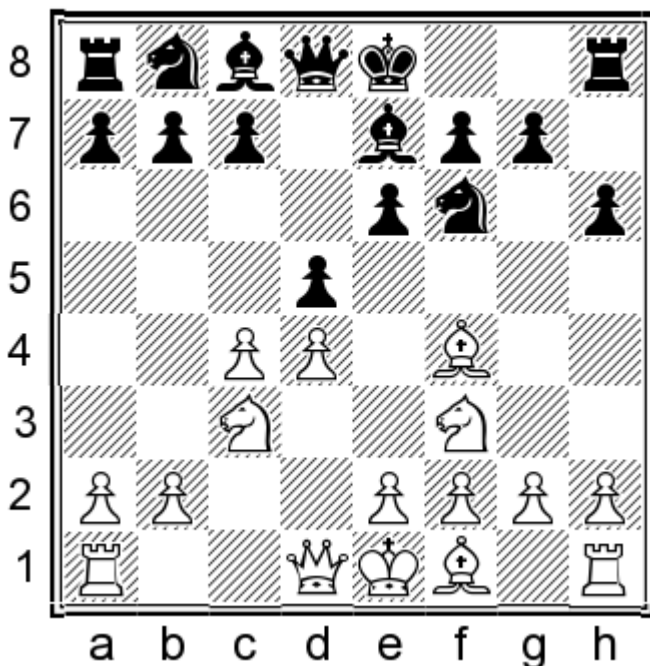


10.g6!? fxg6 (10...f5 11.h5 Ngf6 12.f3 Nb6 13.Qc2 O-O 14.Bd3 Qd7 15.Qh2 Nc4 16.b3 Nd6 17.Nge2 b6 18.Be5 c5 19.Nf4 Rac8 20.dxc5 bxc5 21.O-O ± Van Kampen,Robin 2643 - Bruzon Batista,Lazaro 2643, Espana 2017) 11.Bd3 Nf8 12.Nf3 (12.Qb3!? Qb6 13.Qc2 O-O-O 14.Nf3f; 12.Qc2!?) 12...Bg4 13.Rg1 Nf6 14.Qc2!? (14.Rg3? g5!µ So,Wesley 2822 - Akobian,Varuzhan 2645, USA (ch) 2017) 14...Bxf3 15.Bxg6+ Nxg6 16.Qxg6+ Kd7 17.Qf5+ Ke8 18.Qg6+=

4...Nf6 5.Bg5

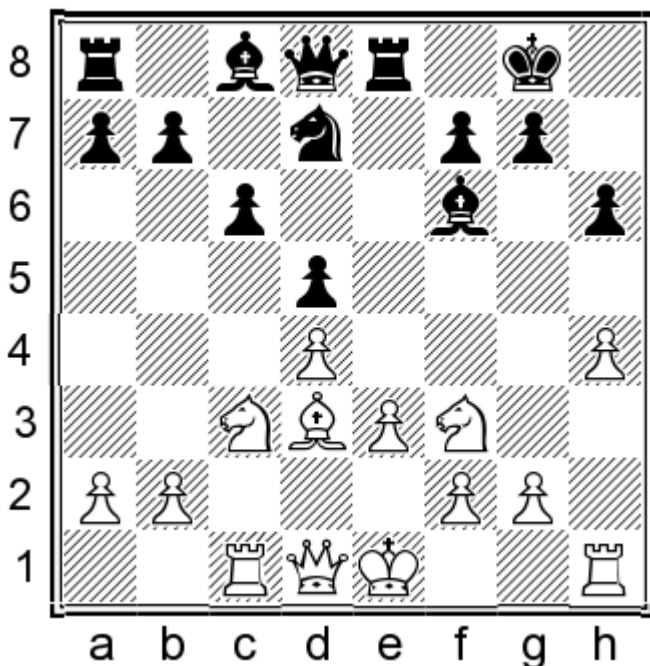
The most played is 5.Bf4 O-O 6.e3 etc.

5...h6 6.Bf4!?



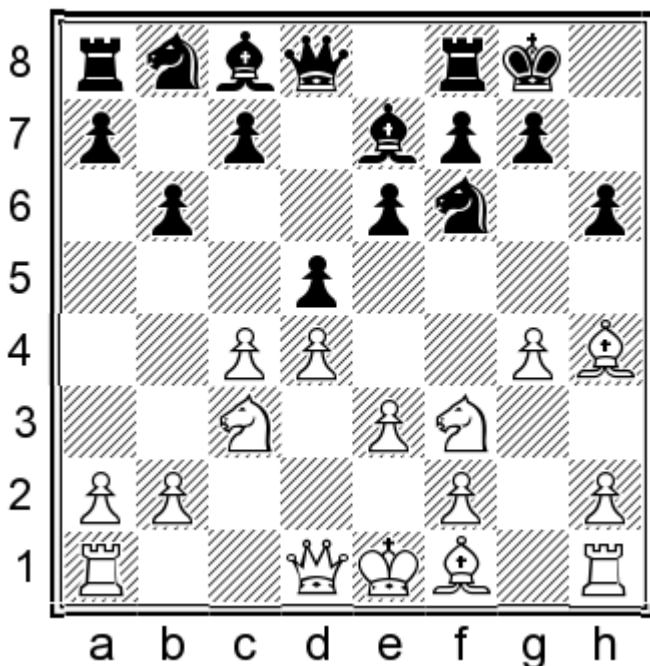
White accepts to play with a tempo less, but having provoked the h6 push which is an important motif for the attack. In many situations g4 advance is stronger if the black pawn is already on h6, because g5 push directly opens the black king's position! Obviously, this variation is extremely serious, being a line in the 5.Bf4 variation with the pawn on h6! In old days, such line would be regarded as bizarre!

6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.e3 O-O 8.Rc1 c6 Black castled short, while his h6-pawn is inviting White to act very quickly! 9.Bd3 (9.g4 g6 10.h4 Bg7 ∞ The best response. If White continues with h5, Black responds with g5 and vice versa.; 9.h4 c5!? (9...Re8 10.g4 e5 11.g5! exd4 12.Nxd4 hxg5 13.hxg5 Bxd4 (13...Bxg5 14.Qh5 Bh6 15.cxd5→) 14.Qxd4 Qxg5 15.cxd5 ± Ivanisevic,Ivan 2655 - Markus,Robert 2606, Srbija 2013; 9...g6!? is an interesting solution preparing the retreat of the bishop to g7. Also, Black will be able to parry any White's pawn advance by blocking the kingside!) 10.dxc5 Na6!? 11.cxd5 Nxc5© Aronian,Levon 2807 - Carlsen,Magnus 2823, Sao Paulo/Bilbao 2011) 9...Nd7 10.cxd5 exd5 11.h4 g6 (11...Re8?!



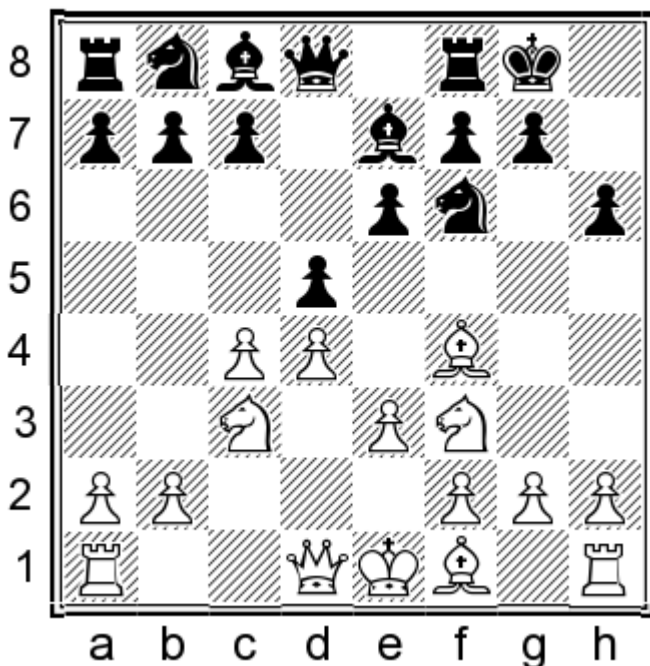
12.g4! Nf8 13.g5 hxg5 14.hxg5 Bxg5 15.Ne5 Bh6 16.Qh5 Be6 17.Rg1 Qf6
 18.f4 ± Halkias,Stelios 2525 - Mastrovasilis,Athanasios 2415, Greece 2001)
 12.g4 (12.h5 g5 ∞) 12...Bg7 ∞ Black is well prepared to close the kingside!

6.Bh4 O-O 7.e3 b6 (7...Ne4 8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Rc1 c6 Aronian's first idea was to
 play 10.h4, but White players found 10.g4!? to be a bit quicker way of
 opening the position of the black king. A decade ago such ideas were
 impossible in classical openings such as the Queen's Gambit. Black did play
 h6, thus weakening his king's position.) 8.g4!?



8...Nxc4! (8...g5? 9.Bg3 Nxc4 10.h4 ± ; The first game that featured this variation was played at the Dresden Olympiad. Peter Heine Nielsen applied a fresh idea in the Tartakower Variation 8.g4!?, conducted an excellent attack and scored a brilliant victory. 8...dxc4 9.Bxf6 Bxf6 10.h4! Bb7 11.g5 hxc5 12.hxc5 Bxc5 13.Bxc4f c5 14.d5 Bh6 15.Ke2 b5 16.Rxh6! gxh6 17.Qh1 +- Nielsen, Peter Heine 2662 - Georgiev, Veselin 2372, Dresden (ol) 2008) 9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Nxd5 Qd6 12.Nc3 c5 13.Rg1 Nc6!? (13...Nf6 14.dxc5! (14.Bg2 Bg4 15.Qd2 Nbd7 16.Ne5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qxe5 18.Bxa8 Rxa8 © Grischuk, Alexander 2795 - Leko, Peter 2731, Moscow 2014) 14...Qxc5 15.Qd4²) 14.d5 Ne7 ∞

6...O-O 7.e3



The Bf4 variation of the Queen's Gambit with the early h6!? allows White to speed up the g4 advance and make a contact with the black pawns very quickly!

7...c5

7...Nbd7 8.g4!? c5 9.g5 hxg5 10.Nxg5 (Also possible is 10.Bxg5) 10...cxd4 11.exd4 dxc4 12.Rg1!? Nd5 (12...b5!?) 13.Qc2! Bxg5 14.Bxg5 f6 15.Bh6 Rf7 16.Bxc4 ± Dubov,Daniil 2699 - Karjakin,Sergey 2752, chess24.com (Internet-m/9-rapid) 2020. You can find the analysis of this beautiful game in Chess Informant 144/ 138.

7...b6 8.g4!? dxc4 9.g5 hxg5 10.Nxg5 Nd5?! 11.Qh5! Bxg5 12.Bxg5 Qe8 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Bf6 + - Bernadskiy,Vitaliy 2619 - Saldano Dayer, Horacio 2429, chess.com (Internet-bltz) 2021

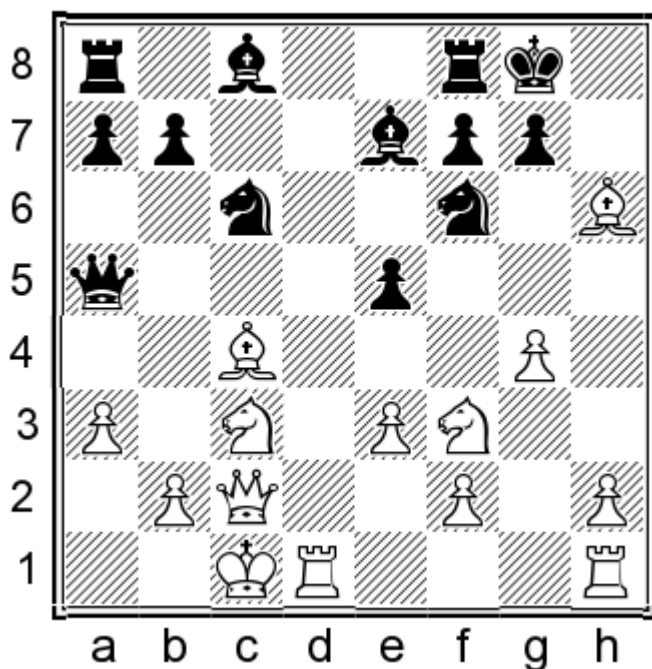
8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.a3 Nc6 10.Qc2 Qa5

Also, Black can prevent g4, as played in one recent game: 10...Nh5 11.Bg3 dxc4 12.Bxc4 Be7 13.Ba2 a6 14.Rd1 Qa5 15.Bb1f Carlsen,Magnus 2872 - Kovalev,Vladislav 2660, Wijk aan Zee 2020 - 143/145

11.O-O-O Be7 12.g4! dxc4 13.Bxc4 e5 Tabya position without the h6 move! Here, White has the option of pushing 14.g5, as well as going for 14.Bh6!?

13...Rd8 14.Rxd8+ Qxd8 15.g5 Nh5 16.Rd1 → So,Wesley 2770 -

14.Bxh6!?



14.g5 ∞

14...Bxa3!

The bishop is immune to capture 14...gxh6? 15.Qg6+ Kh8 16.Qxh6+ Nh7 (16...Kg8 17.Ng5 +-) 17.Bd3 f5 18.g5 Bxa3 19.Nb5 Bxb2+ 20.Kxb2 Qb4+ 21.Kc1 +-

15.Bg5 ∞

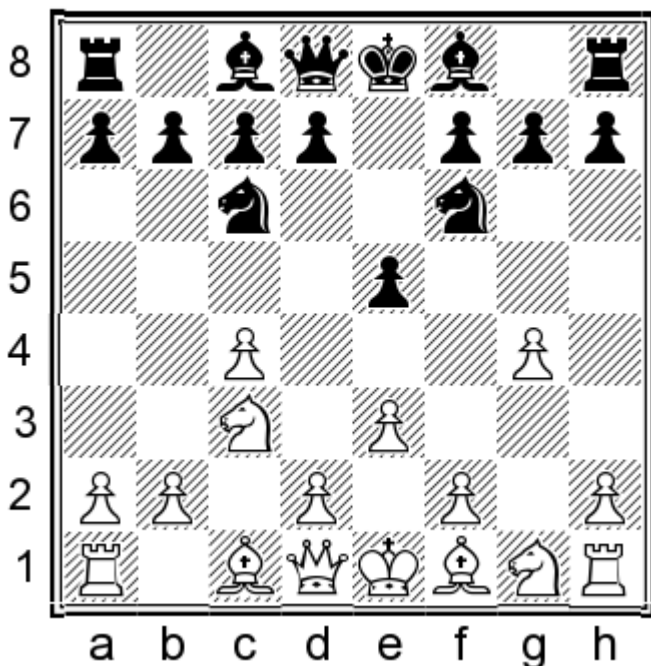
15.Nd5!?!; 15.Rhg1!?

ENGLISH OPENING

1.c4

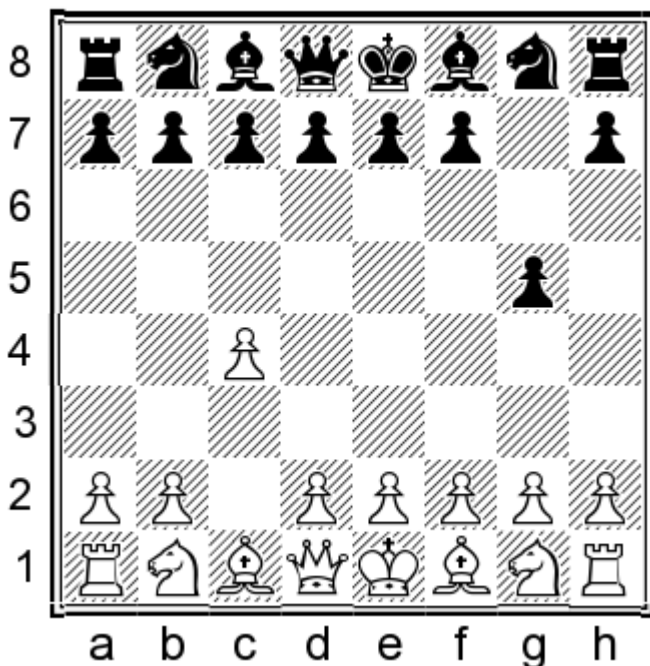
1.c4 c5

1...e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.e3 Nc6 4.g4!?

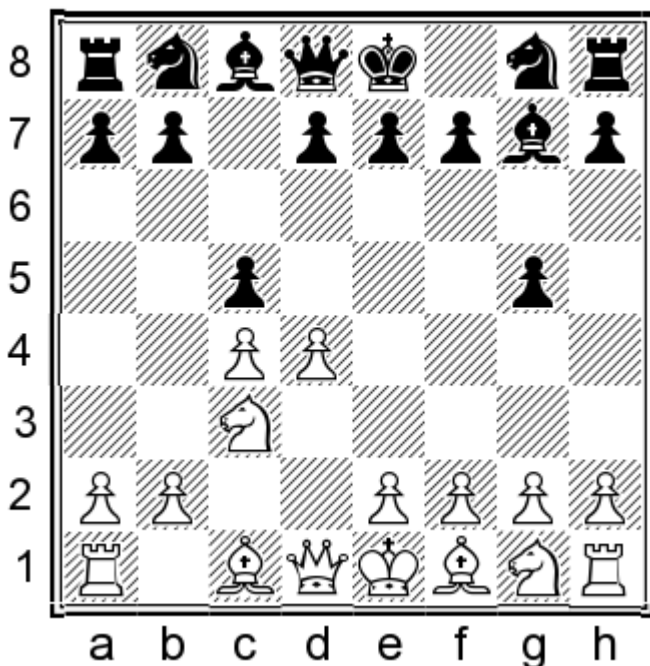


I proposed this continuation in the article published in Chess Informant volume 135. The position remains unexplored, with quite a few elite proponents! In actual fact, White is playing the Sicilian with the reversed colours, having an extra tempo which he uses in a very aggressive manner to seize the initiative. 4...d6 (4...h6 5.Bg2 d6 6.h3 Be6 7.Nd5 e4 8.Ne2 Ne5 9.Nef4 Bxd5 10.cxd5 g5 11.d4 (11.Ne2 c6 12.Ng3 Nd3+ 13.Kf1 cxd5 14.f3 h5µ Rapport,Richard 2716 - Pavlovic,Milos 2478, Basel 2015 - 123/15) 11...Nf3+ 12.Bxf3 exf3 13.Nd3 Nxd5 14.Qxf3 c6 15.Bd2² Xiong,Jeffery 2709 - Ivanisevic,Ivan 2604, chess. com (Internet-bltz) 2020; 4...Bb4 5.g5 Bxc3 6.bxc3 (6.gxf6 Ba5 7.fxg7 Rg8 8.a3 d6∞) 6...Ng8 7.d4!? Qxg5 8.d5 Nd8 (8...Na5!?) 9.d6 c6 (9...cxd6!) 10.Nf3 Qf5 11.Rg1© Carlsen,Magnus 2832 - Vachier Lagrave,Maxime 2796, Leuven (blitz) 2017; After direct 4...d5 most likely Black cannot reach full equality: 5.g5 d4 6.gxf6 dxc3 7.fxg7 cxd2+ 8.Bxd2 Bxg7 9.Bc3 Be6 10.Qb3² Rapport,Richard 2759 - Ding,Liren 2791, chess.com (Internet-rapid) 2020) 5.h3 Be7 6.Bg2 O-O 7.Nge2 Ne8 8.Ng3 g6 9.d4 (9.b3!? Ng7 10.Bb2 Bh4 11.Qe2²) 9...Ng7 10.O-O f5,, Ivanisevic,Ivan 2573 - Kunin,Vitaly 2574, Neustadt an der Weinstrasse 2018

1...g5!?



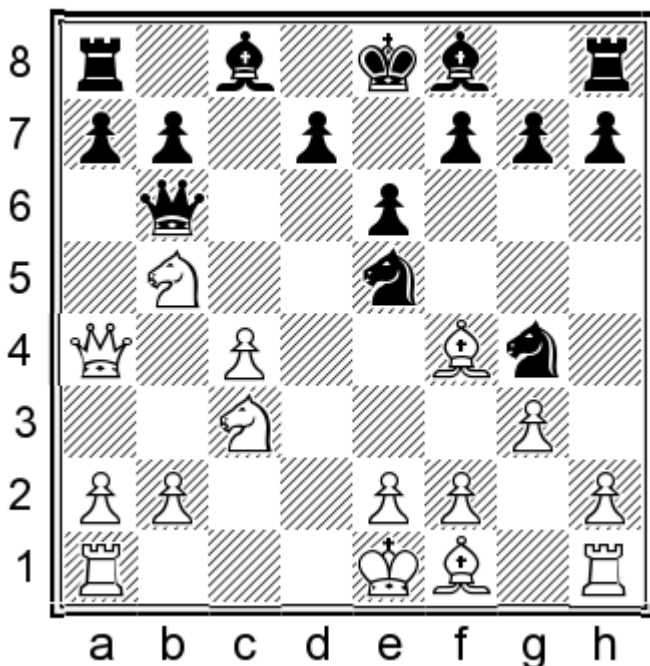
(Michael Basman) 2.d4 In order to fight for advantage White must play in a principled fashion! If he goes for some well known English scheme Black will gain space on the kingside and have the powerful bishop on g7! 2...Bg7 (2...h6 3.Nc3 (3.h4) 3...Bg7 4.e4 d6 (4...c5 5.dxc5! with the same situation as in the main variation.) 5.h4 (5.Nge2!?) 5...g4 6.Nge2! (6.Be3) 6...c5 7.d5 Nd7 8.h5 Ne5 9.Ng3) 3.Nc3 (3.Bxg5 c5 4.Nf3 cxd4 (4...Qb6 5.Nc3 Qxb2) 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.Nc3 Rb8 8.Qd2 Nf6 9.g3 Qb6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.b3 Qd4© Black has a decent compensation thanks to the bishop pair and open lines at his disposal.) 3...c5



(3...h6 transposing to 2...h6.) 4.dxc5! (4.d5 Bxc3+!? (4...h6 5.e4 d6² We have a very interesting position on the board. Black has pawns on g5 and h6 (instead on g6 and h7) which may prove to be costly because the f5 and h5 squares are weak. On the other hand, this difference could be good for Black because he has a greater activity and the e5 square for his knight.) 5.bxc3 h6 6.e4 d6 ∞) 4...Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 h6 (5...Qa5 6.Bxg5 Na6 (6...Qxc3+ 7.Bd2 ± Black should prevent the opening of the position because that would allow the white bishops to spring to life.) 7.g3 Nxc5 8.Bg2 Ne6 9.Bd2 Nf6 10.Nf3 ±) 6.h4 g4 7.e4 Qa5 8.Ne2 ±

2.Nc3

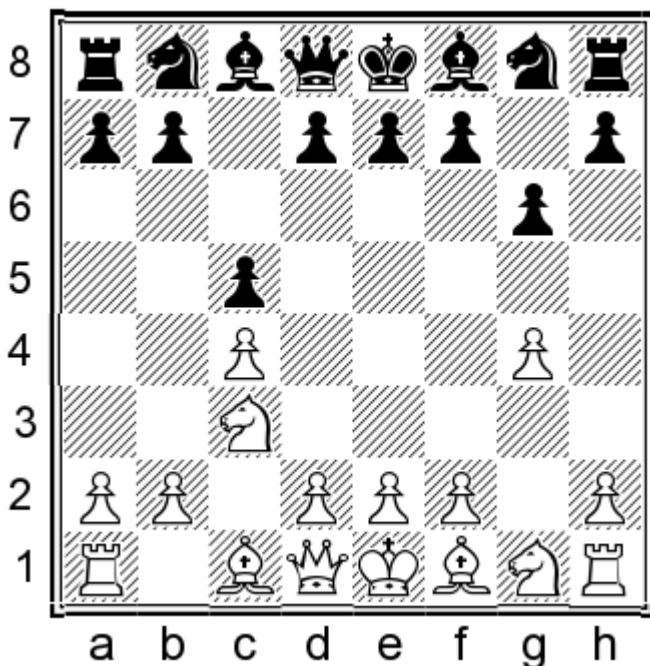
2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.g3 Qb6 7.Ndb5 Ne5 8.Bf4 Nfg4 9.Qa4



This position was very popular a few years ago. The variation after 9...g5 is explored almost to a forced draw. However, last year at the Chess Engines Championship a new idea came to life via changed move order! In both cases g5 advance is a weapon in fight for the initiative. 9...g5!? (If Black starts with 9...Qxf2+ 10.Kd2 g5! he allows 11.Nc7+ Kd8 12.Bxe5 Qe3+ 13.Kc2 Qxe5 14.Nxa8 Ne3+ 15.Kb3 Bc5! 16.Bh3 d6 ∞ LCZero - Stockfish, tcec-chess.com (Internet) 2020) 10.Bxe5 Qxf2+ 11.Kd1 Nxe5 12.Nc7+ Kd8 13.Nxa8 Qd4+ 14.Kc2 Nxc4 15.Kb3 (15.e4 Qd2+! 16.Kb3 Qxb2+ 17.Kxc4 Bg7 18.Qa5+ b6 19.Qxg5+ f6 20.Qb5 (20.Qxg7 Ba6+ 21.Nb5 (21.Kd4 Qf2#) 21...Bxb5#) 20...Ba6! 21.Qxa6 f5 22.Qxa7 Qxc3+ 23.Kb5 Qc6+ 24.Kb4 Qc3+ = Amin,Bassem 2686 - Lupulescu,Constantin 2656, chess.com (ol-rapid) 2020 - 146/12) 15...Nd2+ 16.Kc2 Nc4 17.Kb3 Nd2+ 18.Kc2 = Carlsen,Magnus 2776 - Dominguez Perez, Leinier 2717, Linares 2009 - 105/20

2...Nc6

2...g6 3.g4!?



Yet another Rapport's creation, even though not that successful as many others of his extraordinary innovations. White is intending to gain space on the kingside. In all the games he played Rapport traded his f1-bishop for the c6-knight thus ruining Black's pawn structure and shifting the play into positional waters. However, that is not the only way of treating this position, since White can go for the long castle and reach completely fresh positions for the Symmetrical English. 3...Bg7 After a few introductory moves we reach the text move. 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.d3 transposing to the main line.

3.d3 g6

3...e6 4.e4 Nf6 5.f4 ∞

4.g4!? Bg7 5.Bg2 d6

5...e6 6.h4 h5 7.gxh5 Rxh5 8.Bg5 f6 9.Bd2 Nge7 10.Ne4 Nf5 11.Nf3 ∞
Ivanisevic,Ivan 2567 - Zujev,Oleg 2368, Bergamo 2018

6.h3

6.g5 h6 (6...e6 7.h4 h5 8.Bxc6+ (8.gxh6!? Nxh6 (8...Bxh6 9.Bxh6 Rxh6 10.Qd2 Rxh4 11.Nh3 © For the sacrificed pawn White has much better development. He will proceed with the long castle and seizing of the h-file.) 9.h5 g5 10.Bd2 ∞) 8...bxc6 9.f4 e5 10.fxe5 Bxe5 11.Nf3 ∞ Rapport,Richard 2691 - Dominguez Perez,Leinier 2754, Wijk aan Zee 2014) 7.h4 ∞

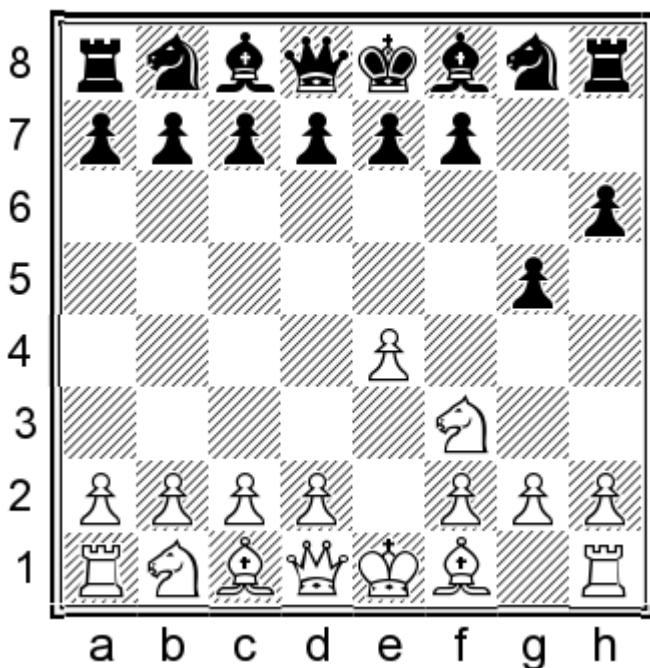
6...e6 7.Bxc6+ bxc6 8.f4 h5 9.g5 e5 ∞ Rapport,Richard 2715 - Eljanov,Pavel 2763, Ashdod (rapid) 2015

RETI/ENGLISH OPENING

1.Nf3

1.Nf3 Nf6

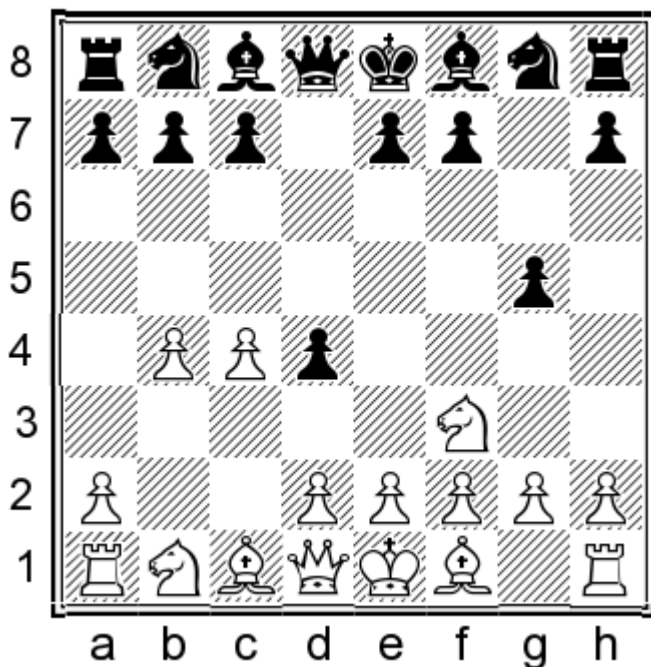
1...h6 2.d4 (2.e4 g5



Basman's idea that got some following too! Curiously, if Black plays the Modern (without knight on f6) quite often he follows up with the h6-g5 idea thus trying to gain space on the kingside and put some pressure on White's short castling. So, why not g5 right away? With the bishop on g7 and pawn on g5 Black is exerting pressure on White's centre, while White must count on the g4 threat at all times. 3.d4 The most principled continuation. 3...Bg7 4.h4 (4.h3 d6 5.Bd3 c5 (5...Nc6!? 6.Be3 e5 7.c3 Nf6 ∞) 6.c3 Qc7 7.Be3 Nd7 8.Nbd2 Ngf6 9.Nf1 Nh5 10.g3 Nh6 11.g4 b6 12.Ng3 Bb7 ∞ with highly complicated position, Grigoriant, Sergey 2587 - Rapport,Richard 2720, Reykjavik 2016) 4...g4 5.Ne5 h5 (Also possible is 5...d6 6.Nxg4 Bxg4 7.Qxg4 Bxd4 ∞) 6.Nc3!? (6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 gxf3 8.Nxf3 Nf6 9.e5 Ng4 ∞ Tabatabaei,Mohammad Amin 2629 - Kokarev,Dmitry 2621, chess.com

(Internet-bltz) 2020) 6...d6 7.Nc4 Nc6 8.Be3²) 2...g5 and after the principled 3.e4 we transpose to the already explained situation that arises after 2.e4

1...d5 2.c4 d4 3.b4 g5!?



White is gaining space on the queenside with the 3.b4 pawn advance. After 3...c5 or 3...f6 he would play the Benko or Blumenfeld Gambit being a tempo up, which is to be recommended. Highly unusual positions arise where the more creative and talented players should prevail. The line itself is a decade old, so there is still plenty of scope for analysis and investigation. 4.Bb2 (4.Nxg5 e5 5.d3 Bxb4+ 6.Bd2 a5³; 4.Qb3 Bg7 (4...g4? 5.Nxd4 ±) 5.Nxg5 e5 6.Qg3 Ne7∞; After 4.e3 we will mention a short, but very entertaining game by one of the main proponents of this continuation, Morozevich,Alexander: 4...e5 5.exd4 exd4 6.Qe2+ Ne7 7.Nxg5 Bg7 8.Qh5 Ng6 9.d3 Qe7+ 10.Be2 Nd7 11.O-O Nf6 12.Qf3 h6 13.Nh3 Bxh3 14.gxh3 Nh4 15.Qxb7 Qxe2 16.Qxa8+ Kd7 17.Qh1 Nf3+ 18.Kg2 Rg8 19.Bf4 Nh5 0 : 1 Hillarp Persson, Tiger 2527 - Morozevich,Alexander 2683, Saint Petersburg (rapid) 2016; 4.Qa4+ c6 5.d3 g4 6.Nfd2 Bg7 (Also interesting is 6...h5!? having in mind that White intends to continue developing by playing g3 next.) 7.g3 h5 8.h4∞ Markowski,Tomasz 2616 - Navara,David 2702, Polska 2011) 4...Bg7 5.Nxg5 (5.e3 e5 6.exd4 exd4 7.d3 g4 8.Nfd2 Ne7 9.Be2 h5) 5...e5 6.Ne4 f5 7.Nc5 b6 8.Qa4+ (8.Nd3 Ne7 9.e3 O-Of) 8...Kf7 9.Nd3 Ne7© White is not capable of completing development in natural way. (9...c5!?!; 9...e4 10.Nf4 Ne7©)

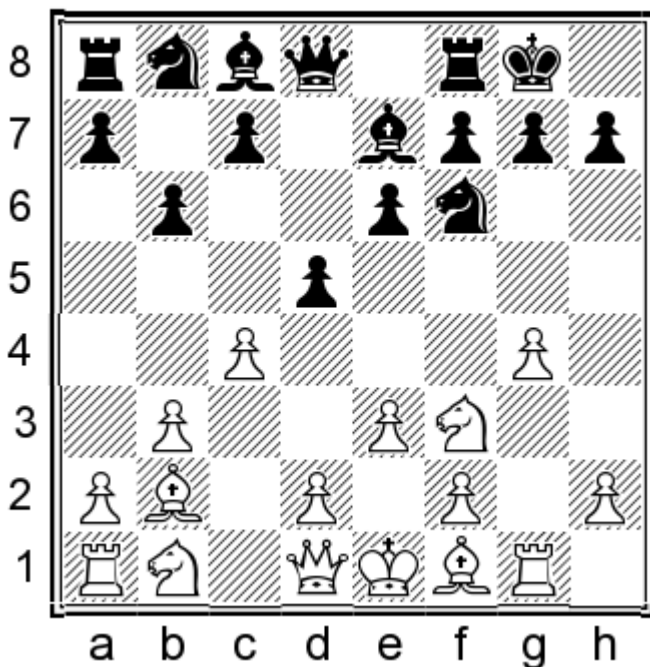
2.c4 e6

2...c6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 e6

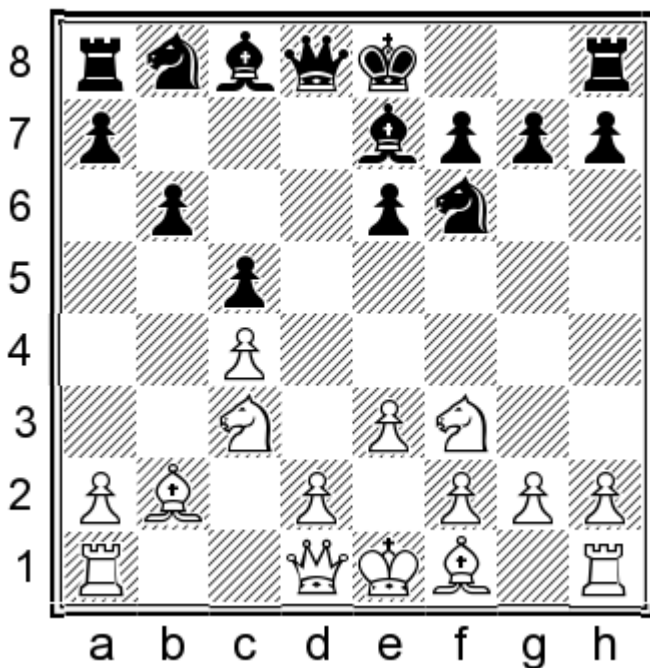
3.Nc3

3.e3 Mamedyarov played g4 several times having this as the starting position.

3...d5 (3...Be7 4.b3 O-O 5.Bb2 b6 6.Rg1 d5 7.g4!?

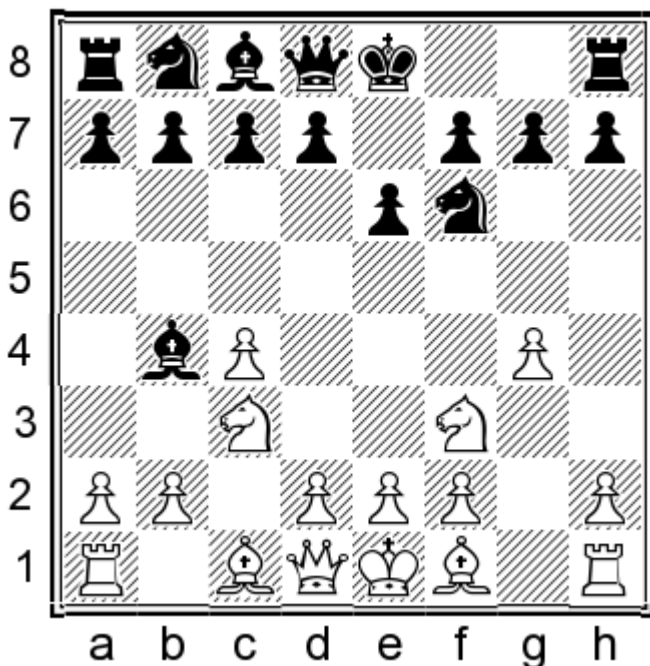


7...c5! 8.g5 Ne4 9.d3 Nd6 10.h4 Nc6 11.Nbd2 Bb7 12.Bh3 Nb4 13.Ne5 ∞
Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar 2801 - Karjakin, Sergey 2773, Saint Louis (blitz)
2018) 4.b3 Be7 5.Bb2 dxc4 6.bxc4 c5 7.Nc3 b6



8.g4! Bb7 9.g5 Nfd7 10.h4f Ne5 11.Nxe5! Bxh1 12.Qh5! (12.Qa4+ Nd7 13.f3 ∞ Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar 2801 - Nakamura,Hikaru 2777, Saint Louis (blitz) 2018) 12...g6 (12...O-O 13.Bd3 g6 14.Nxg6! +-) 13.Qg4f with the idea of 13...Nd7 (13...Nc6 14.Nxf7! Kxf7 15.Qh3! Qd7 16.Qxh1 ± ; 13...O-O) 14.Nxf7! Kxf7 15.Bh3 Nf8 16.Nb5! ±

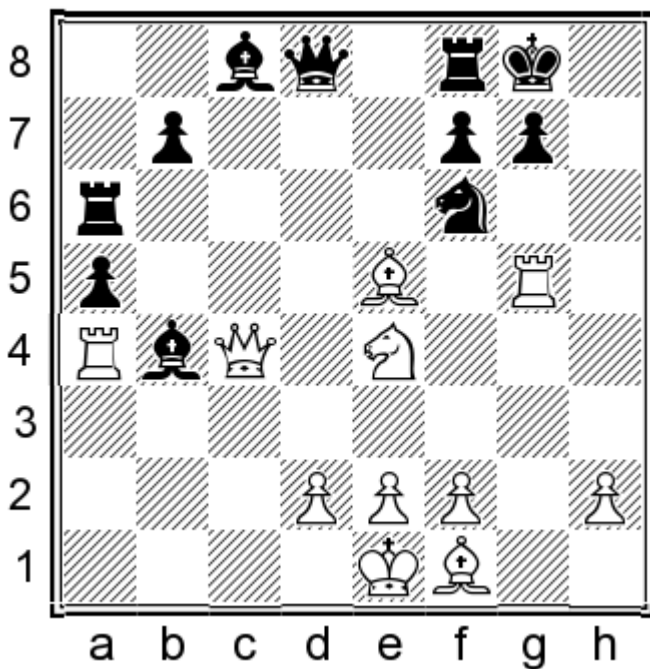
3...Bb4 4.g4!?



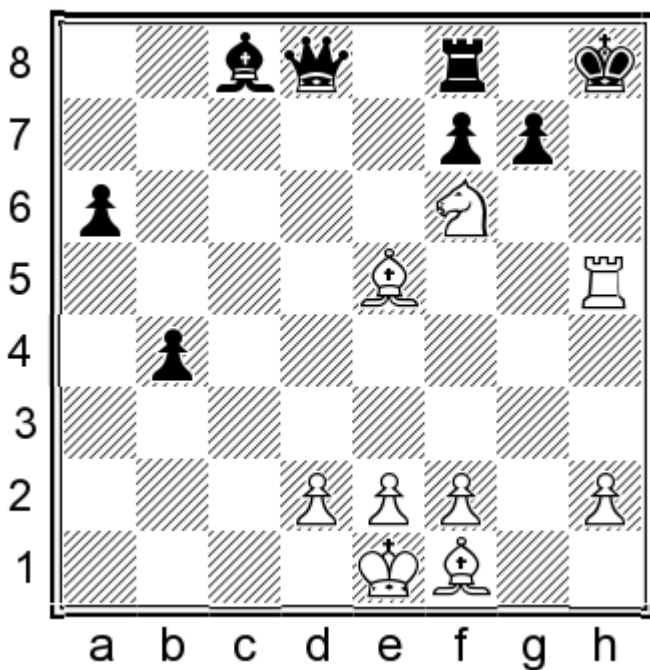
The old Vadim Zvjaginsev's idea. Prior to that it was Krasenkow, Michal who used it in a few games of his own. I am not sure which path should Black take, but I would opt for play in the centre and development. I quote two games to illustrate that plan. **4...O-O** I suggest Black should play in this manner.

4...d6 5.g5 Nfd7 6.h4 Nc6 7.h5 Bxc3 8.dxc3 e5 9.Rg1 Nc5 10.b4 Ne6 11.c5 e4 12.Nh4² David,Alberto 2576 - Rozentalis,Eduardas 2513, Rethymnon 2017

4...h6 5.Qc2 c5 6.a3 Ba5 7.Rg1 d5 8.g5 hxg5 9.Rxg5 O-O 10.b4! cxb4 11.axb4 Bxb4 12.Bb2f dxc4 13.Ra4 a5 14.Ne4 Nbd7 15.Qxc4 e5 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Bxe5 Ra6



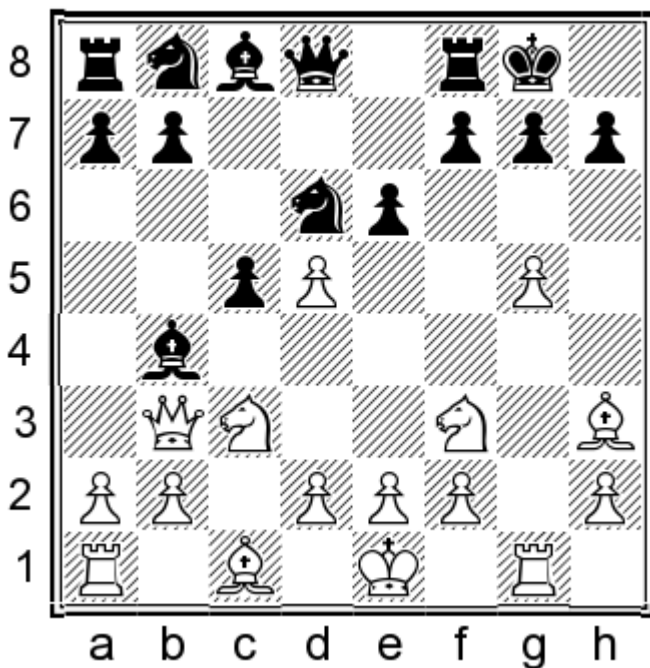
18.Rxb4! axb4 19.Qxa6! bxa6 20.Nxf6+ Kh8 21.Rh5#



1 : 0 Greenfeld,Alon 2547 - Sammalvuori, Tapani 2431, Helsinki 2016

5.g5 Ne8 6.h4

6.Rg1 d5 7.Qb3 c5! 8.cxd5 Nd6 9.Bh3



9...Na6!? Development is of paramount importance! Black is not counting pawns, as long as the white king is stuck in the centre. 10.g6? fxg6! (10...c4 11.gxh7+ Kh8 12.Qc2 exd5 13.Bxc8 Rxc8 14.Nxd5 Re8©

Morozevich,Alexander 2732 - Papaioannou,Ioannis 2625, Bursa 2010)

11.dxe6 (11.Bxe6+ Bxe6 12.dxe6 c4 13.Qc2 Rxf3! 14.exf3 Nc5μ) 11...c4 12.Qc2 Rxf3! 13.exf3 Nc5μ

6...d5 7.Qb3 c5!? 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Qxd5 Nd6 10.Bh3

10.g6!?

10...Bxh3 11.Rxh3 Nc6 12.h5 Ne7 13.Qe5

13.Qb3 Qd7 14.Rh2 Rfe8©

13...Nc6 14.Qd5 Ne7 15.Qe5 Nc6 16.Qd5 Ne7 = David,Alberto 2553 - Papaioannou,Ioannis 2640, Greece 2019

CONCLUSION

The g4 (or g5) pawn advance is possible in many opening lines. Rarely it is a direct attack on the enemy king, but more often a way of seizing space on the

kingside and struggle for initiative. If the enemy king is already castled short, with the h3 (or h6) being played some motifs of direct assault on the rival king may appear.

In this survey I wanted to share with you some of my thoughts and ideas on how to play the openings in a bit non-standard fashion, and also explain when g4 (or g5) is fine, and when it's dubious.

THE SICILIAN DEFENCE [B 81]

Keres Attack

Krisztián Szabó

• **Country:** Hungary

• **Born:** 1989

• **Rating:** 2480

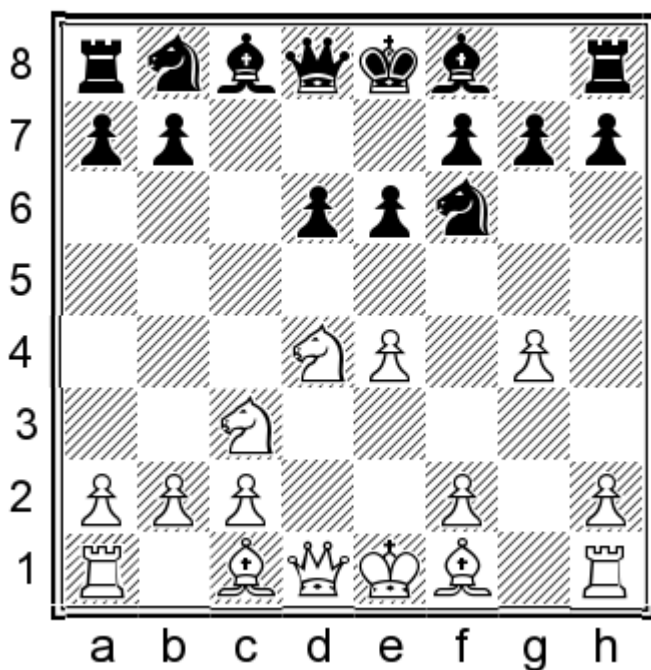
• **Peak rating:** 2564

• **Title:** Grandmaster since 2010

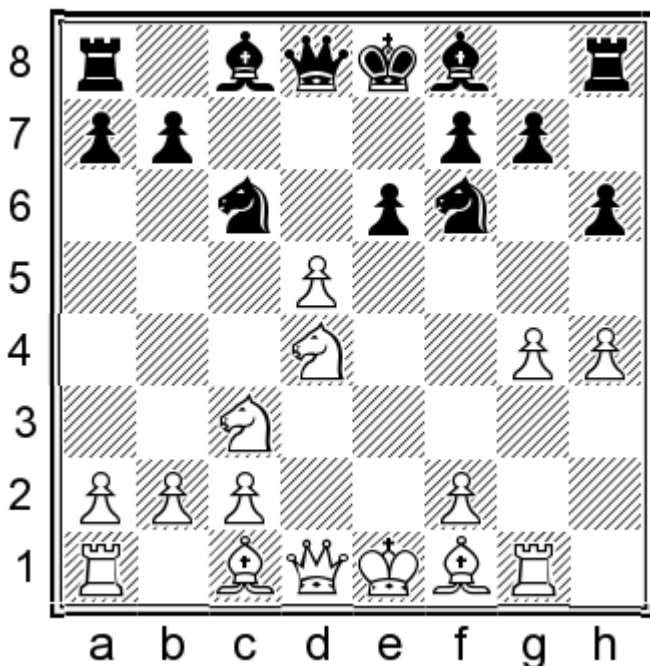


1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3

d6 6.g4



6...h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1 d5 9.exd5

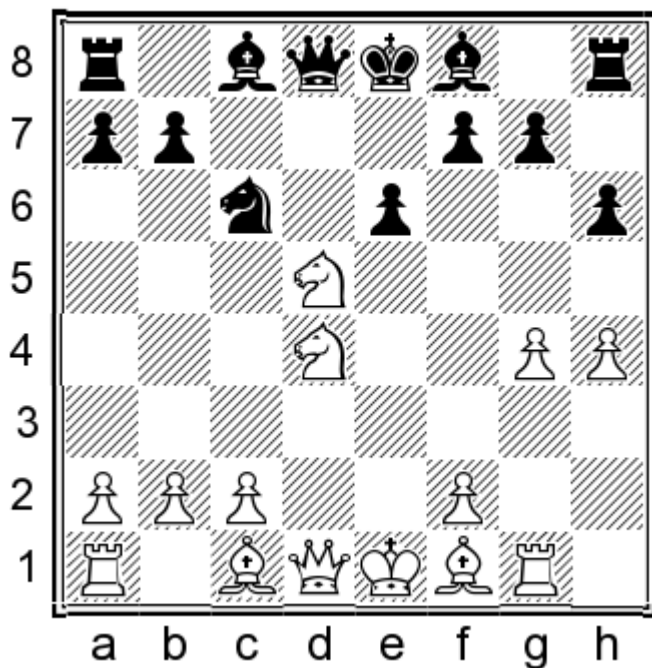


9.Bb5 is the alternative line. Approximately equally popular as 9.ed5, but with a much worse score. Therefore, it's usage currently is far less common. Usually if we hear the name "Keres Attack", we imagine a sharp Sicilian middlegame. However, this variation after 9.ed5 often leads to positional middlegames or endgames with an isolated pawn belonging to Black. Duda,Jan-Krzysztof likes to play it with the black pieces.

9...Nxd5

9...exd5? is obviously a bad move, because of 10.Bb5! Bd7 11.Qe2+ Be7 12.Be3 Bb4 13.Nxc6! Bxc6 14.Bd4+! Qe7 15.O-O-O Qxe2 16.Bxc6+ bxc6 17.Nxe2 Kd7 18.Ng3 Rhe8 19.Nf5 Bf8 20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.c4± and White has a clearly better endgame.

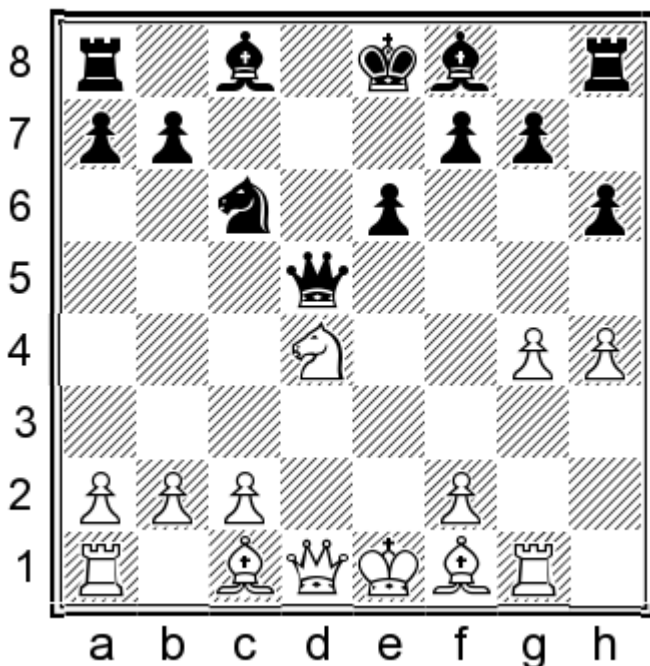
10.Nxd5



CHAPTER 1

10...Qd5

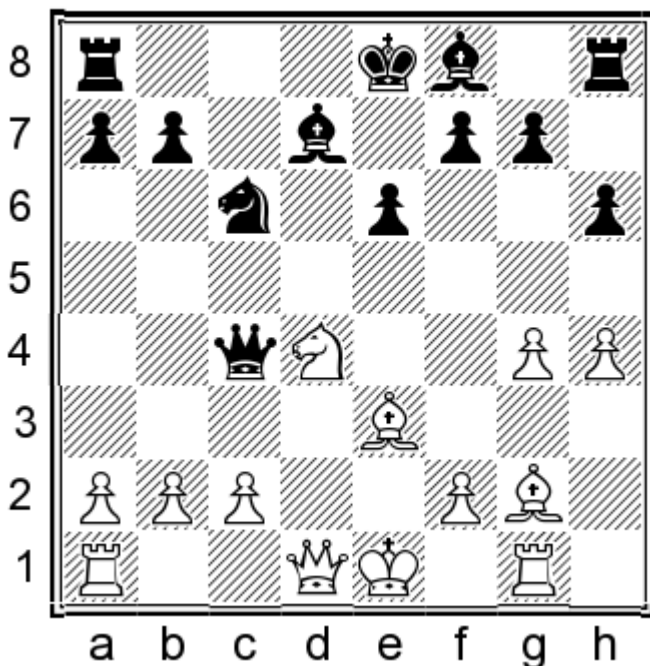
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5



The principled reply. However, the queen could be attacked in the centre, so White can win some tempi.

11.Bg2

11.Be3 Bd7 12.Bg2 (12.c3 Be7 13.Bg2 Qc4 14.Bf1 (14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Qd4 Qxd4 16.Bxc6+ Qd7 17.Bxd7+ Kxd7 18.h5 Kc6 19.Ke2 Bc5 1/2 : 1/2 Abergel,Thal 2547 - Van Wely,Loek 2639, France 2010) 14...Qd5 15.Bg2 Qc4 1/2 : 1/2 Smeets,Jan 2657 - Anand,Viswanathan 2790, Wijk aan Zee 2010) 12...Qe5 transposes to 11.Bg2 (12...Qc4



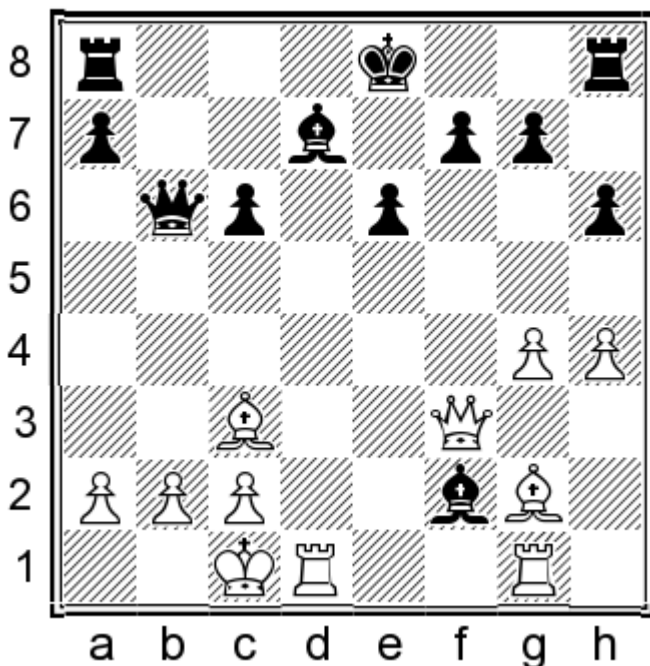
13.Nxc6! (13.Qd2 Rd8 14.Bf1 Qd5 15.Be2 (15.Nb5?! Qxd2+ 16.Bxd2 Bc5 17.Bg2 O-O 18.Nc3 Nb4 19.Rc1 Bc6 20.Bxc6 Nxc6³ Caruana,Fabiano 2709 - Movsesian,Sergei 2721, Moscow (blitz) 2010) 15...Be7 ∞) 13...Bxc6 14.Qd4 Qb4+ 15.c3 Qxd4 16.Bxc6+ bxc6 17.Bxd4 c5 18.Be3² and still Black is fighting for equality, Sjugirov, Sanan 2645 - Gabrielian, Artur 2544, Russia 2014.)

11...Qe5+

11...Qxd4?? is not working, because of 12.Bxc6+ +-;

11...Qc4 12.Nxc6 (12.Be3 Bd7 is transposing to 11.Be3) 12...bxc6 13.c3 (13.Qd3 Qxd3 14.cxd3 Bd7 (14...Kd7?! 15.Be3 Rb8 16.b3 a5 17.Rc1 Bb7 18.Ke2 $\pm$ Popov,Ivan 2599 - Geller, Jakov 2526, Moscow (blitz) 2017) 15.Be3²) 13...Bd7 (13...Rb8 14.Qe2 Qxe2+ 15.Kxe2 Bd7 16.b3 e5 17.Be4² Bok,Benjamin 2449 - Flumbort,Andras 2540, Haarlem 2010) 14.Qe2 (14.Be3!?) 14...Qxe2+ (14...Qa4 (Blomqvist, Erik 2552 - Berg,Emanuel 2557, Sverige (ch) 2017) 15.Be3f) 15.Kxe2²;

11...Qa5+ 12.Bd2 Qe5+ (12...Qb6? 13.Nxc6 bxc6 14.Qf3 Bd7 15.O-O-O Bc5 16.Bc3 Bxf2



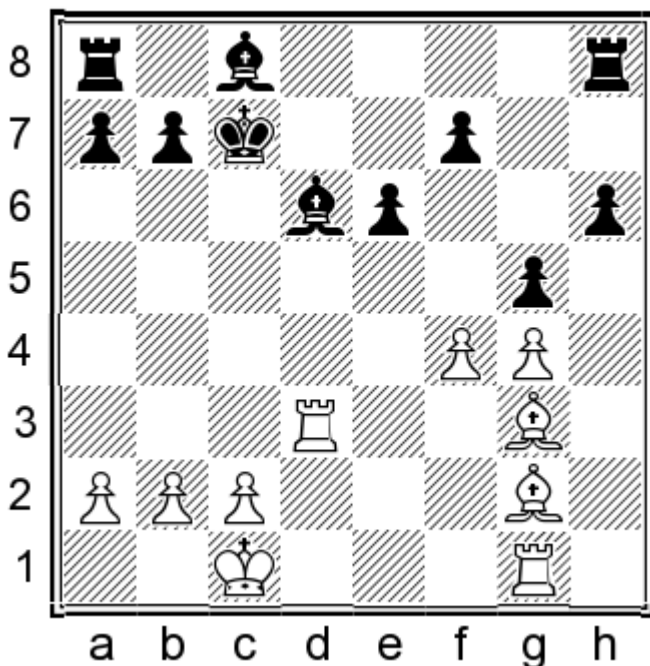
17.Rxd7! Qe3+ (17...Kxd7 18.Qxf7+ Kc8 19.Qxe6+ +-) 18.Rd2 Qxf3
 19.Bxf3 Bxg1 20.Bxc6+ 1 : 0 Fedorchuk,Sergey 2577 - Lacasa Diaz,Jose
 Antonio 2427, Salou 2005) 13.Be3 is transposing to the text move.

12.Be3 Qh2 Black play is risky, since he is too slow with development.

12...Nb4?! 13.Qd2 Be7 (13...Nd5 14.O-O-O Nxe3 15.fxe3 Bc5 16.Kb1 O-O
 17.g5 +- Meier,Georg 2301 - Antal,Gergely 2475, Aviles 2003) 14.O-O-O
 Nxa2+ 15.Kb1 Nb4 16.g5 h5 17.g6f Maguire,Gary - Verrelli, Stefano, corr
 2014

13.Kf1

13.f4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxh4+ 15.Bf2 (15.Ke2!?) 15...Qd8 16.Qxd8+ Kxd8
 17.O-O-O+ Kc7 18.Rd3 (18.Rge1!?) 18...Bd6 19.Bg3 Rd8 (19...g5?



20.Rxd6! Kxd6 21.fgx5+ Ke7 (21...Kc5 22.Be5 +-; 21...Kd7 22.Be5 +-)
 22.Be5 +-) 20.Rgd1 f5 (20...f6? 21.f5 e5 22.Be1 a5 23.Rd5 e4 24.Kb1 e3
 25.Bf1 +- Gashimov, Vugar 2746 - Giri, Anish 2690, Monaco (blindfold)
 2011 - 111/99) 21.Rc3+ Kb8 22.Rcd3 Kc7 23.g5 Rd7 24.gxh6 gxh6 25.Rc3+
 Kb8 =

13...Qc7

13...Bd7 14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Bxc6+ bxc6 16.Qf3 Rc8 17.Bxa7 Qxh4 18.a4 Qg5
 19.Be3 Qe5 20.c3 Bc5 21.Bf4 Qd5 22.Kg2 Qb3 23.a5 Qxb2 24.a6 ± 1 : 0
 Doric, Nenad - Nicholson, Mike, corr 2015/16

14.Nb5 Qe5 15.Qe2 Bd7

15...a6 16.Nc3 Be7 17.Rd1 Qa5 (Dolin, Boris - Biedermann, Thomas, corr
 2013) 18.g5f

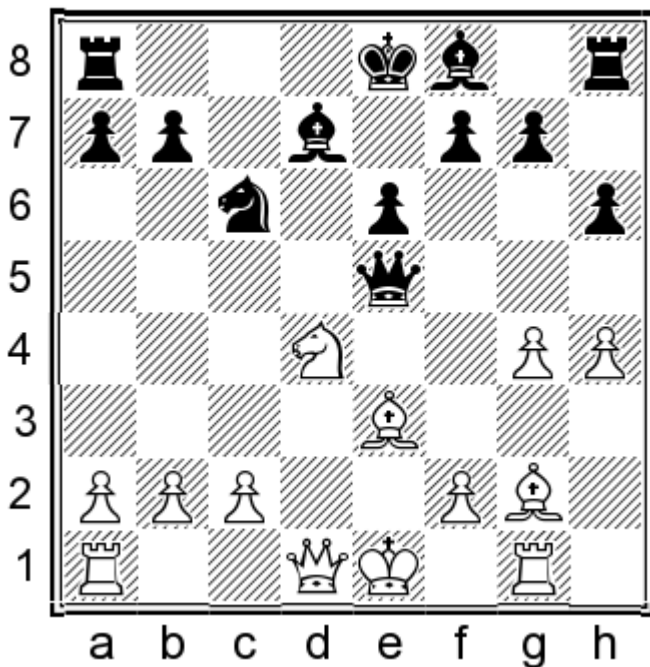
16.Rd1 Rd8 17.c4 Be7 18.b3 Qb8 19.Be4 a6 20.Nd4 Qc7 21.Nf3f

Grossi, Roberto - Schenning, A.A, corr 2016/17

CHAPTER 2

10...Qd5/12...Bd7

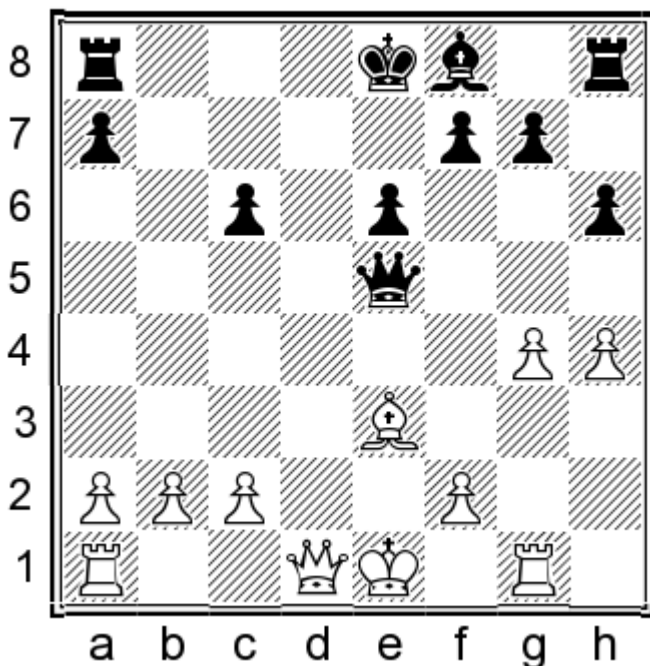
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.Bg2 Qe5+ 12.Be3 Bd7



13.Nxc6

13.Qd2 Bc5 (13...Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxd4 15.Bxd4 Bc6 16.Bxc6+ bxc6 17.O-O-O² Harikrishna,Pentala 2753 - Movsesian,Sergei 2653, Huai'an (blitz) 2016) 14.f4 Qd6 15.Bxc6 (15.O-O-O!?) 15...Bxc6 16.O-O-O Rc8 (16...O-O-O?! 17.Qc3 Bb6 18.Nf5 Qc7 19.Nxg7 Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 Bf3 21.Rd3 Bxg4 22.Bxb6 axb6 23.Nxe6 Qxc3 24.Rxc3+ Kb8 25.Nd4± Venkatesh,M.R 2434 - Kunte,Abhijit 2517, India (ch) 2010) 17.Qd3 O-O 18.g5 Bxd4 19.Qxd4 Qxd4 20.Bxd4 h5 and Black is fighting to equalise the position.

13...Bxc6 14.Bxc6+ bxc6

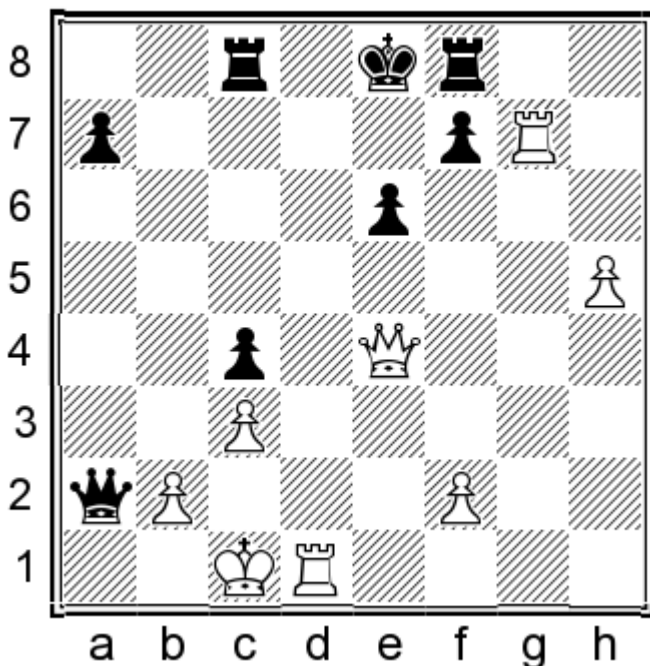


15.Qd4! Suddenly, White offers the exchange of queens. The b2-pawn was hanging and the black king is not so weak, so the endgame is comfortable for White.

15...Qxd4

15...Bd6 16.Qxe5 Bxe5 17.O-O-O White has a nice endgame, because his pawn structure is better and his rook is active on the d-file. 17...O-O 18.Rd7 Rfb8 19.c3 Rb5 20.f4 Bf6 21.g5 hxg5 22.hxg5 Bd8 23.g6± Duzhakov,Ilya 2421 - Jumanov,Elbek 2283, Tashkent 2018

15...Qa5+ 16.c3 Rd8 (16...c5?! 17.Qe4 Rc8 18.O-O-O Be7 (18...Qxa2? 19.Qb7 Qa1+ 20.Kd2! +-) 19.g5 hxg5 20.Bxg5! Bxg5+ 21.Rxg5 Qxa2 (21...g6 22.Rxg6 +-) 22.Rxg7 Rf8 (22...Kf8 23.Rd7! Kxg7 24.Qe5+ Kg8 25.Qg5+ Kf8 26.Qe7+ +-) 23.h5 c4



24.Rd6! Qa1+ 25.Kc2 Qa4+ 26.Kb1 Rc7 27.Rxe6+! What a nice attacking play! 27...Kd7 (27...fxe6? 28.Qa8+ 1 : 0 Beliavsky, Alexander 2590 - Ghinda,Mihail-Viorel 2475, Bucuresti 1980 - 30/439; 27...Kd8 28.Rd6+ Rd7 29.Qd5 +-) 28.Qg4 +-) 17.Qc4 Qc7 (Kaminski,Uwe 2345 - Vogt,Lothar 2505, DDR (ch) 1989) 18.Rd1²

16.Bxd4 c5

16...h5 17.g5 c5 18.Be5 Rd8 19.c4 Rh7 20.Ke2 Be7 21.f4 f6 22.Bc3² Spraggett,Kevin 2580 - Galego,Luis 2530, Figueira da Foz 2007

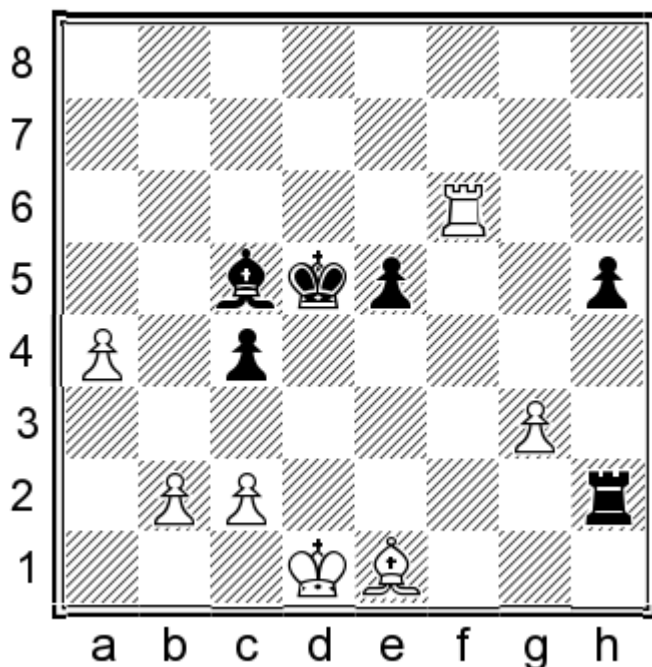
16...f6 17.O-O-O (17.h5 c5 18.Be3 O-O-O 19.Ke2² Vasiukov,Evgeni 2495 - Balashov,Yuri 2595, Moscow 1982) 17...Bd6 18.Be3 Ke7 19.Rd3 e5 20.Rgd1 Rhd8 21.c4 Ke6 22.f3² and White has a slight edge, Liepold,Stefan 2240 - Espig,Lutz 2365, Nuernberg 2010 - 109/(137)

17.Bc3 O-O-O

17...Rd8 18.Ke2 Rd5 (18...f6 19.h5 Bd6 20.Rad1 Ke7 21.Rd3 Bc7 22.Rgd1 Rxd3 23.Rxd3 Rb8 24.b3² Fier,Alexandr 2506 - Valerga,Diego 2506, Villa Martelli 2010 - 109/(137)) 19.b3 (19.h5!? f6 20.f4 Kf7 21.Kf3 Be7 22.Rae1 c4 23.Re4 Rc8 24.Rge1 Rc6 25.Rd4 Rxd4 26.Bxd4 a6 (26...Ra6 27.a3²) 27.Bc3²) 19...f6 20.Bb2 Be7 21.c4 Rd8 (21...Rd7 22.h5 Kf7 23.Rad1 Rhd8 24.Rxd7 Rxd7 25.f4²) 22.h5 Kf7 23.Rad1² Naiditsch,Arkadij 2686 - Movsesian,Sergei 2717, Odessa (m/2-rapid) 2010 - 109/137

18.Rd1

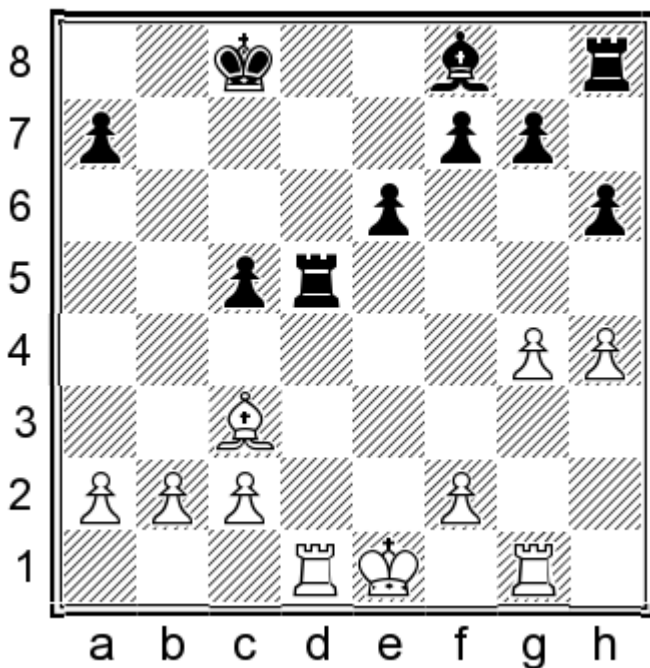
18.h5 Rd5 19.Ke2² Rg8 20.Rg3 Bd6 21.Rf3 f6 22.Re3 Kd7 23.Re4 f5 24.Ra4
fxg4 25.Rxa7+ Kc6 26.Rxg7 Rxg7 27.Bxg7 Rxh5 28.Rgl g3 29.fxg3 Rh2+
30.Kd1 h5 31.Bc3 e5 32.Be1 c4 (32...e4©) 33.Rf1 Bc5 34.Rf6+ Kd5 35.a4



35...Rh1© (35...Bd4? 36.a5 e4 37.a6 e3 38.Rf7 1 : 0 Bogner,Sebastian 2589 -
Sokolov,Andrei 2516, Schweiz 2018)

18.Rg3 f6 19.Re3 Rd6 20.Rd1 Kd7 21.Re4 Rxd1+ 22.Kxd1 Bd6 23.Ra4 Bb8
24.h5 Rc8 25.Ke2² Novikov,Stanislav 2512 - Sergienko,Sergey 2456,
Voronezh 2005

18...Rd5



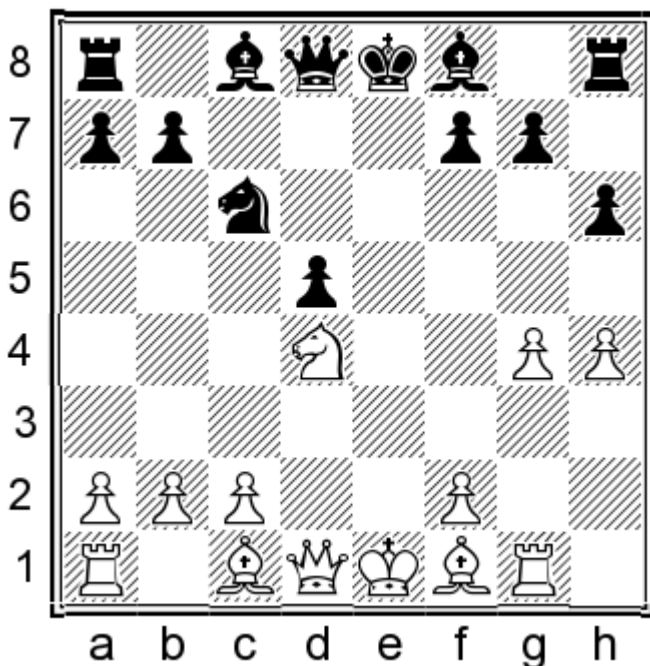
19.Rg3! Kd7 20.h5 Bd6 21.Re3 f6 22.Re4 a6 23.Ra4 Ra8 24.Ke2²

Bok,Benjamin 2586 - Pichot,Alan 2528, Khanty-Mansiysk 2015

CHAPTER 3

10...ed5

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 exd5

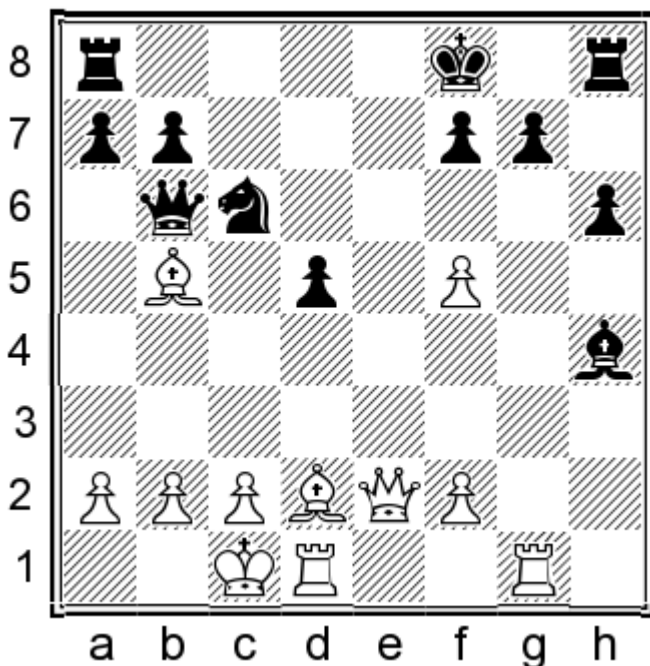


Black is not afraid of the isolated pawn. Moreover, the h4-pawn is hanging.

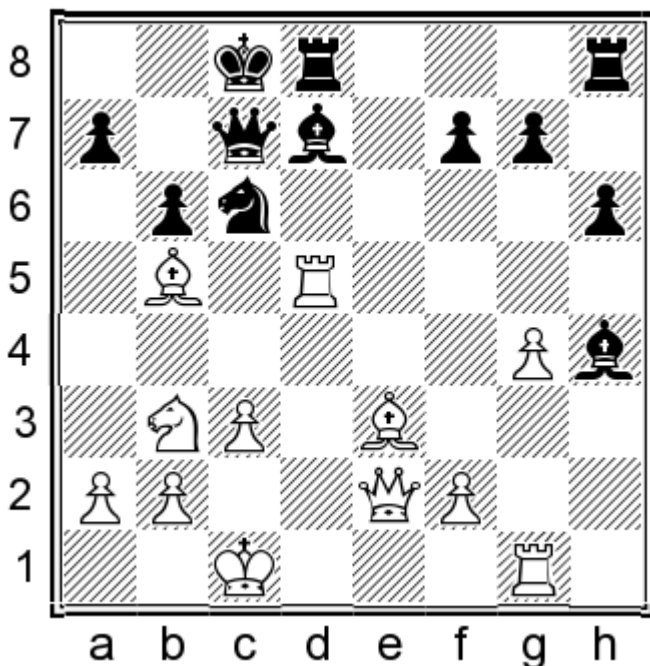
11.Be3

11.Qe2+ Be7 (11...Qe7? Obstructs development of the f8-bishop. 12.Be3 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 ±) 12.Be3 O-O (12...Qa5+ 13.c3 Be6 (13...O-O?! 14.g5f) 14.g5 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 hxg5 16.hxg5 Rh4 17.Qb5+ Qxb5 18.Bxb5+ Kf8 19.Be2 Bd6 = Szabo,Krisztian 2523 - Movsesian,Sergei 2723, Mainz (rapid) 2010) 13.O-O-O Bxh4! 14.Nf3 Be7 (Stubbe,Frank - Terekhov,Andrey, corr 2010) 15.Kb1² with a strong pressure for the pawn.

11.Bb5 Bd7 12.Qe2+ Be7 13.Be3 (13.Nf5 Bxf5 (13...O-O 14.Bxc6 Re8 15.Nxe7+ Rxe7 16.Be3 bxc6 17.O-O-O 1/2 : 1/2 Dias,Sergio - Isigkeit,Hans, corr 2002 - 85/(216)) 14.gxf5 Kf8 The black king is safe now and the bishop will go to f6. Moreover, Black is threatening with ...Nd4. 15.Be3 (15.c3 Bf6 16.Be3 a6 (16...d4?! 17.O-O-O Qa5 18.Bxc6 Qxa2? 19.Bxd4 +- Liberzon,Vladimir 2555 - Formanek,Edward 2410, Beer Sheva 1978 - 25/488) 17.Bd3 d4,,) 15...Qa5+ 16.Bd2 Qb6 17.O-O-O Nd4 (17...Bxh4?



18.Rxg7!! Kxg7 19.Qg4+ Bg5 20.Bxg5 hxg5 21.Qxg5+ Kf8 22.f6 Rg8
 23.Qf4 Rd8 24.Re1 Rg6 25.Qh4 Kg8 26.Rh1 Kf8 27.Bd3 +- 18.Qg4 Bf6
 19.Be3 h5 20.Bxd4 hxg4 21.Bxb6 axb6 22.Rxd5 Rxa2 23.Rxg4 Rxh4
 24.Rxh4 Bxh4 = Balabaev, Timur - Tay, Junior, corr 2001 - 82/(210))
 13...Qa5+ 14.c3 Nxd4 (14...O-O-O 15.Nb3 Qc7 16.O-O-O (16.g5 hxg5
 17.hxg5 a6∞ Vedmediuc, Sergei 2476 - Shishkin, Vadim 2488, Bucuresti
 2013) 16...Bxh4 17.Rxd5 Be6 (17...b6?



(Omarsson,Dadi 2131 - Grandelius,Nils 2515, Reykjavik 2010) 18.Qf3! +-)
 18.Rxd8+ Rxd8 19.Nc5² Pruijssers, Roeland 2458 - Babula,Vlastimil 2597,
 Deutschland 2008) 15.Bxd7+ Kxd7 16.Bxd4 Rae8 (16...Bxh4?! 17.O-O-O
 Rae8 18.Qf3! Kc8 (18...Qxa2 19.Bxg7 Rhg8 20.Rxd5+ Kc8 21.Qf5+ Kb8
 22.Ra5! Qe6 23.Be5+ Ka8 24.Bd4 Qxf5 25.Rxf5 Re7 26.f4 ±) 19.Kb1 f6
 20.Be3 ± Berescu,Alin-Mile 2489 - Ardelean, George-Catalin 2498, Romania
 2008 - 103/152; 16...Rhe8 (Kotronias,Vasilios 2587 - Ftacnik,Lubomir 2571,
 Dresden (ol) 2008) 17.Kf1 Bf6 18.Qd3²) 17.O-O-O (17.Kd1?! Bxh4 18.Qd3
 Re6 19.Re1 Rhe8 20.Rxe6 Rxe6³ Burrows, Martin 2124 - Sethuraman,SP
 2647, Hastings 2016/17) 17...Bg5+ 18.Be3 Bxe3+ 19.fxe3 Kc8! 20.Kb1 Re5
 21.Qf3 f6 22.Rd4 Rhe8 23.Rgd1 Qb6 = Reppert, Victor - Pagano,Marcelo,
 corr 2010

11...Be7?!

11...Qxh4 see Chapter 4

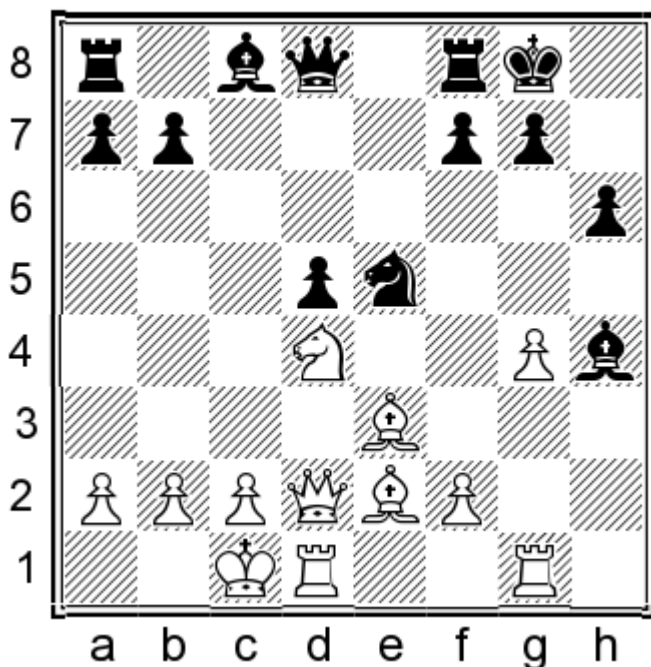
12.Qd2

12.Qe2 transposes to 11.Qe2

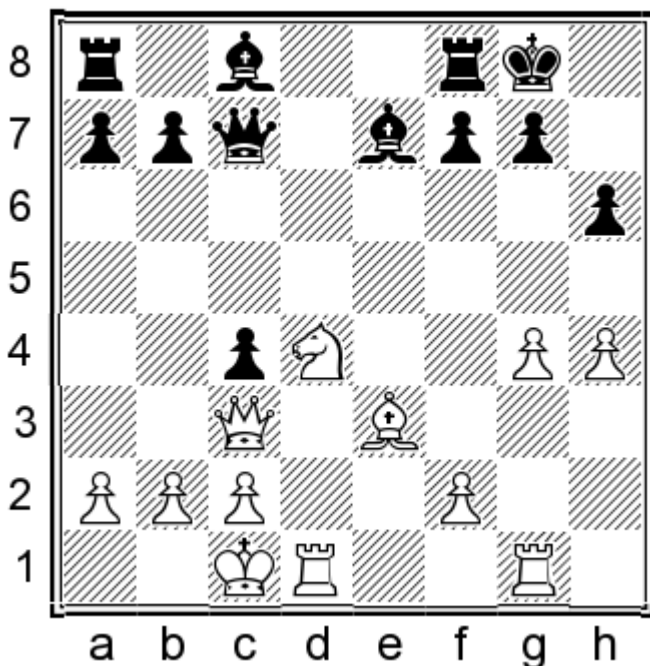
12.g5 hxg5 13.hxg5 Qa5+ 14.c3 Rh4 15.g6 (15.Be2 Nxd4 16.Bxd4
 (Poetz,Florian 2427 - Flumbort,Andras 2472, Oesterreich 2014) 16...Bf5 ∞)
 15...fxg6 16.Nb3 Qd8 17.Rxg6 Bf6 18.Rg3 Be6 19.Qc2 Qe7 20.O-O-O O-O-
 O ∞ Ovaskainen,Juha - Renard,Stephane, corr 2016/17

12...Bxh4 Finally, Black captures the h4-pawn again. Otherwise, White could attack with the g5 push.

12...O-O?! 13.O-O-O (13.g5 h5 14.O-O-O g6 15.Kb1 Re8 16.Bg2 Bg4 17.f3 Bd7 18.f4f Ovaskainen,Juha - Juarez de Vena, Antonio, corr 2016/17)
13...Ne5 14.Be2! Nc4 (14...Bxh4



15.g5! Nc4 (15...hxg5 16.Bxg5 Bxg5 17.Rxg5 +-) 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.gxh6 g6
18.Qc3 Bf6 19.Qxc4 Kh7 20.Nf3 Qe7 21.Bd4 +-) 15.Bxc4 dxc4 16.Qc3 Qc7



(Konguvel,Ponnuswamy 2319 - Savitskiy,Sergey 2351, Pardubice (rapid) 2013) 17.Bxh6! Bf6 (17...gxh6 18.Nf5 +-) 18.Be3 ±;

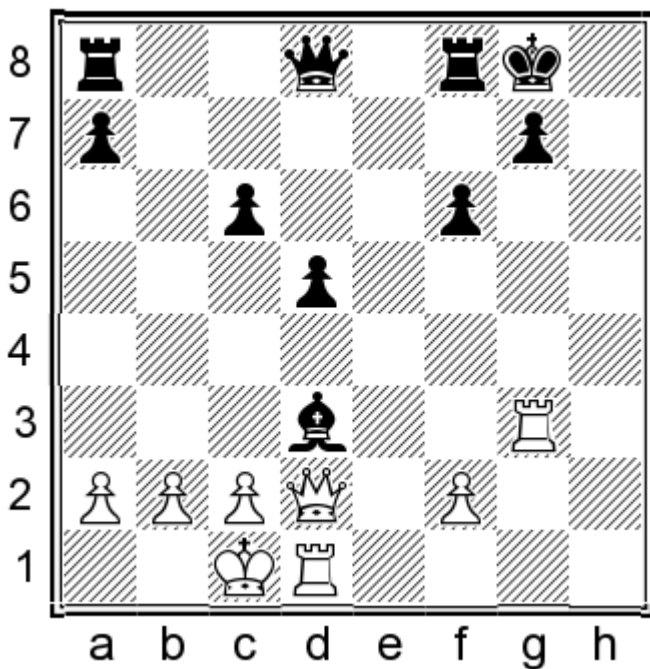
12...Ne5?! 13.Be2 Bxh4 14.O-O-O Bf6 15.f4 Nc4 16.Bxc4 dxc4
(Demchenko,Anton 2611 - Savitskiy,Sergey 2325, Moscow 2015) 17.g5!
hxg5 18.fxg5 Be5 19.Qg2! +-

13.O-O-O Kf8 It is very difficult to decide where to go with the black king. The kingside castling could be met with the strong attack after g5.

13...Nxd4 14.Bxd4 O-O (Nieminen,Kari 2225 - Berczes,Csaba 2189, Budapest 2000) 15.Bd3! ±;

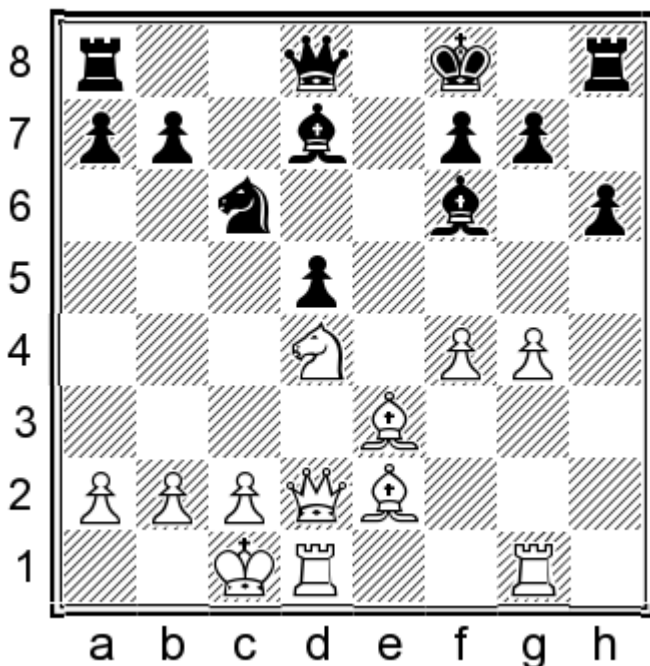
13...Bf6 14.f4! Nxd4 (14...Kf8 is transposing to the text move.) 15.g5! hxg5
16.fxg5 Be5 17.Bxd4 Bxd4 18.Qxd4 Kf8 19.Qf4 Be6 20.Re1 Qb6
(Domancich,Ezequiel - Galytskyi,Volodymyr, corr 2013) 21.Bd3f;

13...O-O 14.Nxc6 (14.Nf5 Bg5 15.Bxg5 Qxg5 (15...hxg5? 16.f4 Re8 17.Rh1 Qc7 18.fxg5 g6 19.Nh6+ Kg7 20.Bb5 +- Yu,Ruiyuan 2439 - Ma,Qun 2427, China 2011) 16.Qxg5 hxg5 17.Rxd5 Re8 18.Bb5 Be6 19.Rc5 Bxf5 20.Bxc6 bxc6 21.gxf5 Rad8 22.Rd1 Rb8 23.a4 Re2 24.Rf1 Re4 ∞ Volokitin,Andrei 2676 - Stoczek,Jiri 2567, Oesterreich 2010) 14...bxc6 15.g5 Bxg5 16.Bxg5 hxg5 17.Rxg5 f6 18.Rg3 Bf5 19.Bd3 Bxd3



20.Qh6! Rf7 21.Rh1 Re7 22.Qh8+ Kf7 (Clancey,James - Renard,Stephane, corr 2016/17) 23.Rxg7+! Ke6 24.Rxe7+ Kxe7 25.Qg7+ Kd6 26.Qg3+! Kc5 27.Qxd3 ±

14.f4 Bf6 15.Be2 Bd7



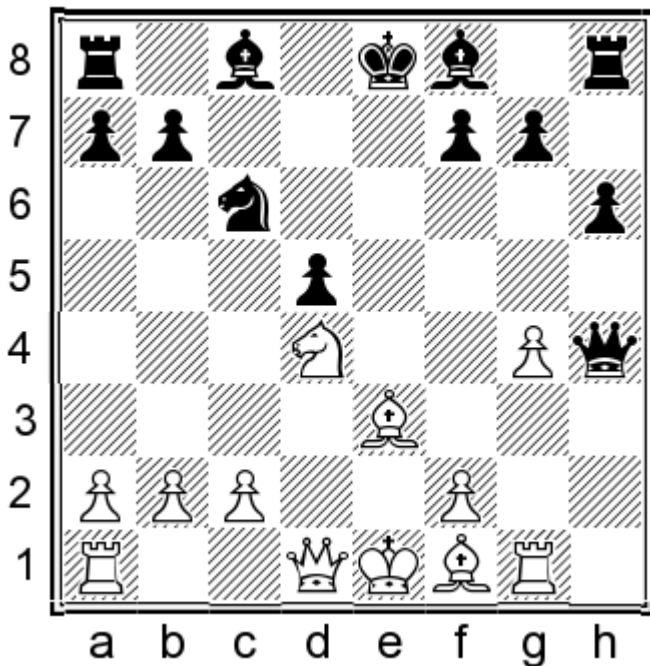
15...Kg8 16.Bf3 g6 17.Kb1 (17.Qf2 $\pm$) 17...Bg7 18.Qg2 Ne7 19.f5! +-
 (19.Nb3 b6 20.Bd4 Bb7 21.Rge1 Bxd4 22.Nxd4 Qd6 23.f5 g5 24.Qe2 Kf8
 25.Qd2 Ng8 26.Qc3 Rh7 27.b3 +- (27.Nb5? Qc5 28.Qxc5+ bxc5 29.Bxd5
 Bxd5 30.Rxd5 Nf6 31.Rxc5 Nxc4 32.Rc7 h5 33.Nd6 h4 34.f6 (34.Ree7?
 Rd8-+ 35.f6 Nxf6 36.Rxf7+ Kg8 0 : 1 Kovacevic,Aleksandar 2510 -
 Damljanovic,Branko 2562, Srbija (ch) 2015) 34...Nxf6³))

16.Nb3! Qc7 17.Qxd5 Rd8 18.Qc5+ Kg8 19.Nd4 $\pm$

CHAPTER 4

10...ed5/11...Qh4

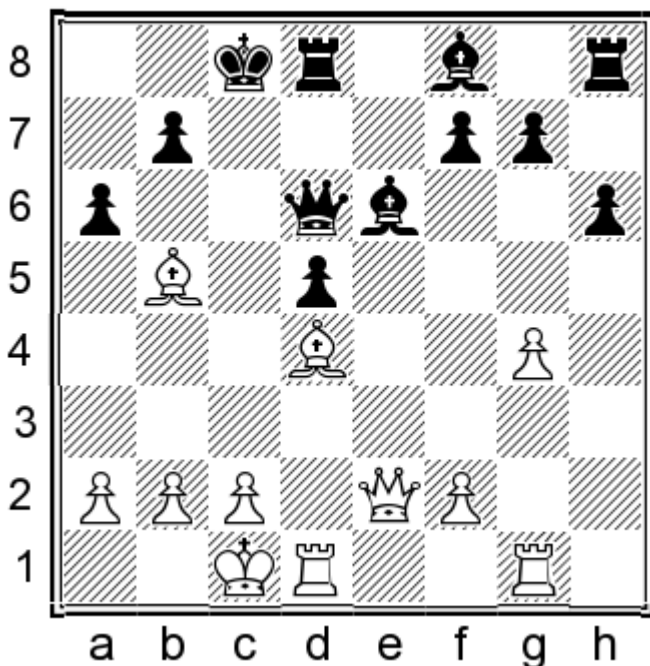
**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1
 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 exd5 11.Be3 Qxh4!**



At first sight this seems to be a greedy move, but objectively it is the best one.

12.Qe2 A tempting move, White is threatening with discovered checks and prepares for 0-0-0.

12.Bb5 Qh2! 13.Nf3 Qd6 14.Qe2 (14.Qd2 Qb4 15.Qxb4 Bxb4+ 16.c3© Van den Doel,Erik 2562 - Sethuraman,SP 2582, Haarlem 2013) 14...Be6 15.O-O-O a6 (15...O-O-O 16.Nd4! Nxd4 17.Bxd4 a6?



18.Rg3! + - Suddenly, the black king is in a big problem on c8. White is threatening with Be5 and Rc3, generating a decisive attack.) 16.Bxc6+ bxc6 17.Bd4 Qf4+ 18.Kb1 c5 19.Be3 Qc4 20.Qxc4 1/2 : 1/2 Hracek,Zbynek 2613 - Ftacnik, Lubomir 2537, Cesko 2018

12.Nb5 Qe7 13.Qxd5 Be6 (13...a6 14.Nc3 Nb4 15.Qd2 Be6 16.O-O-O Rd8 17.Qe1 Rxd1+ 18.Qxd1 Qd7 (18...Nxa2+? was a mistake, 19.Nxa2 Bxa2 20.c4! A great move. The a2-bishop is in trouble. 20...Qb4 21.Bd2 Qb3 22.Qe1+ Be7 23.Rg3 Qa4 24.Ra3 1 : 0 Baramidze,David 2610 - Ftacnik,Lubomir 2546, Deutschland 2018) 19.Bg2²) 14.Qe4 a6 15.Nc3 Qb4 A good move, which is equalising for Black. 16.O-O-O Bc5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Qf4 Rd8 19.Bd3 Qg5 = Kovalev,Vladislav 2636 - Shengelia,Davit 2556, Hersonissos 2017

12...Nxd4 13.Bxd4+ Qe7 It is logical to exchange the queens from Black's point of view. He is a pawn up, but lagging in development. Nevertheless, the position is complex since White has good initiative for the material.

14.Qxe7+

14.Be3 Bd7 15.O-O-O Bc6 16.Bg2 O-O-O 17.Rge1 Qc7 18.Kb1 a6 19.Bd4 Bb4 20.Be5© Kurmann,Oliver 2467 - Sokolov,Andrei 2516, Schweiz 2018

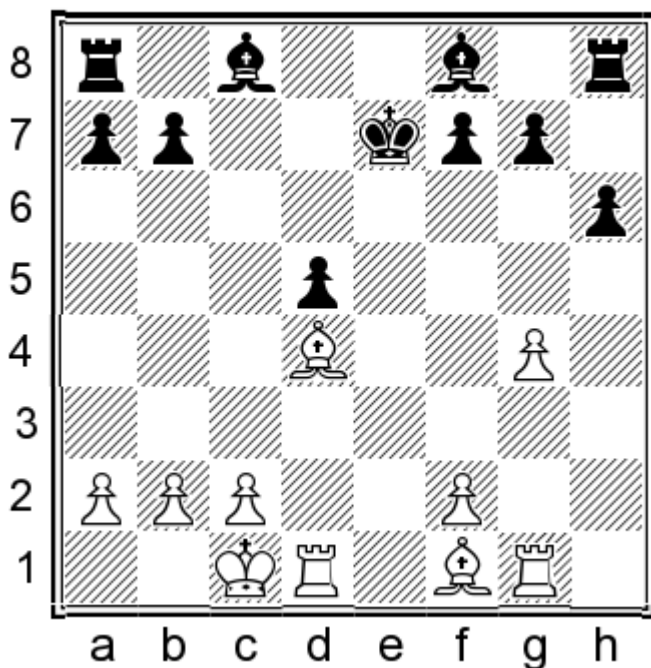
14.O-O-O Qxe2 15.Bxe2 Be6 (15...f6 16.Rge1 (16.Bf3 Be6 17.Be3 O-O-O 18.Bxa7² Bogner,Sebastian 2586 - Solodovnichenko,Yuri 2568, Roma 2017)

16...Kf7 17.Bf3 Be6 18.Rd2 ±) 16.Rge1 Kd7 17.c4f

14...Kxe7

14...Bxe7? 15.Bxg7 Rg8 16.Bxh6 Rxg4 17.Bb5+ Kd8 18.O-O-O Rxg1
19.Rxg1 Kc7 20.Rg8 ± Santos Latasa,Jaime 2594 - Ftacnik,Lubomir 2513,
Portugal 2019

15.O-O-O



15...f6! 16.c4

16.Be3 b6 17.Rxd5 Be6 18.Rd4 Kf7 19.Ra4 Bd7 20.Bc4+ Kg6 21.Bd3+ Kf7
22.Rc4 Be7 23.Rc7 Be6 =

16...Kf7 17.Be3 Be7 18.Bg2 dxc4

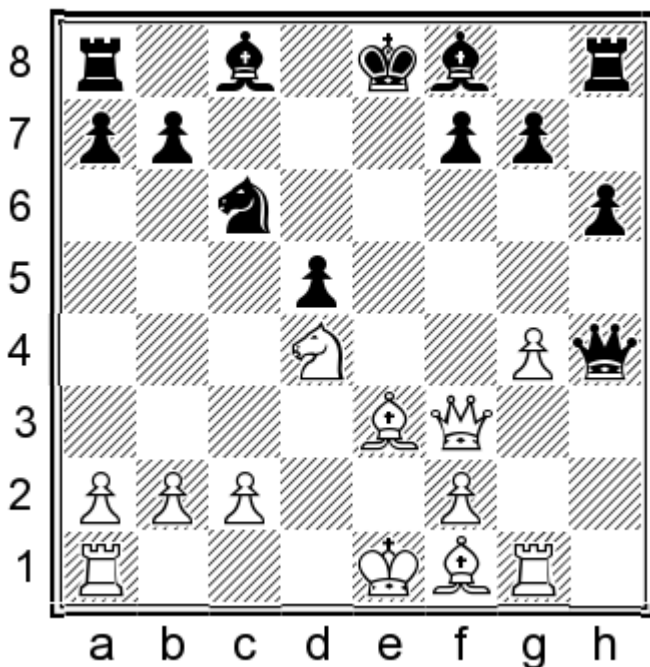
18...Bxg4?! 19.Bxd5+ Be6 20.Bxe6+ Kxe6 21.Rxg7 Rag8 22.Rxg8 Rxg8
23.Bxh6 Rc8 24.b3 b5 25.Rd4 Bc5 26.Re4+ Kf5 27.f3 Rh8 28.Bd2 Rh1+
29.Kc2 Ra1² (29...b4?! 30.Re8 Bd4 31.Rd8 Be5 32.Rd5 Ke6 33.f4 +- Bd6
34.f5+ Ke7 35.c5 Be5 36.Bxb4 Rf1 37.c6+ Ke8 38.Bc3 Rf2+ 39.Kd1 Rf1+
40.Ke2 Rc1 41.Bxe5 fxe5 42.Rxe5+ Kf7 43.Ra5 Rxc6 44.Rxa7+ Kf6 45.Ra5
Rc8 46.Kd3 Rc7 47.Kd4 Rc2 48.a4 Rc1 49.Rc5 Rd1+ 50.Kc4 1 : 0
Baskin,Robert 2339 - Czopor,Maciej 2217, Warszawa 2018)

19.Bd5+©

CHAPTER 5

10...ed5/12.Qf3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 exd5 11.Be3 Qxh4 12.Qf3



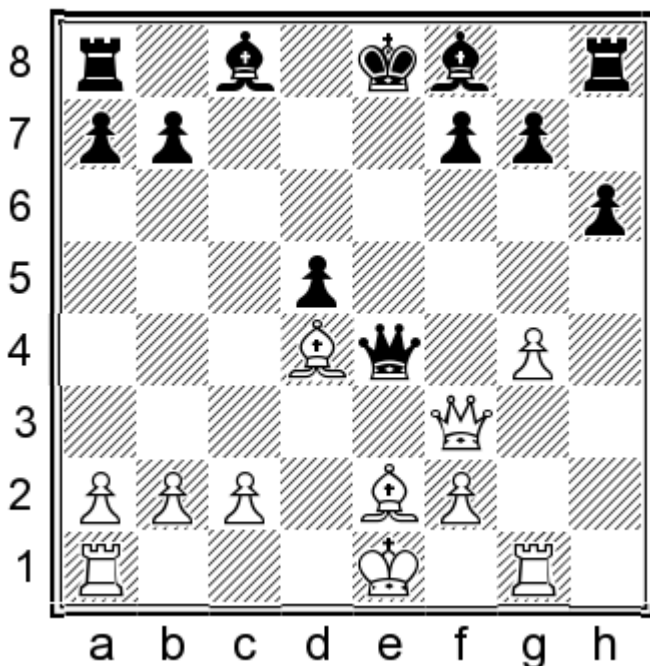
White prepares for 0-0-0, while his queen is very powerful from f3. **12...Nxd4**

12...Be7?! (Kubicka, Anna 2174 - Laurusas, Tomas 2484, Vilnius 2018)

13.Bb5! The typical developing move to pin the knight with a tempo. 13...O-O (13...Bd7 14.Qxd5 ±) 14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.Bxc6 Rb8 16.O-O-O Rb4 17.a3 Rxc4 18.Rh1 Qf6 19.Qxf6 Bxf6 20.Bxa7 ± and White has a promising endgame.

13.Bxd4 Qe7+ Black plays a lot of moves with his queen neglecting developing. White has too many threats.

14.Be2 Qe4



Black would like to exchange the queens, as he has a pawn up with weaker development.

14...Qb4+ 15.Bc3 Qc5 16.O-O-O Be6 17.Bd4 Qa5 18.Qb3 O-O-O 19.f4 This is the ideal position for White. The d4-bishop blocks the isolated pawn, while White's kingside pawns are extremely flexible. He has more than enough compensation for the pawn. 19...f6 20.g5 hxg5 21.fxg5 Rh3 22.Bf3 f5 23.Rge1f Claridge,John - Monacell, James, corr 2002/03

15.O-O-O Here, White doesn't avoid the exchange of queens.

15.Qxe4+ dxe4 16.Bb5+ (16.O-O-O Bd7 17.Bc4 Bc6 18.Rge1 (Kryvoruchko,Yuriy 2714 - Solodovnichenko,Yuri 2576, France 2017) 18...h5!=) 16...Ke7 17.O-O-O Be6 18.Rge1 a6 19.Bf1 h5 20.Bg2 f5 21.gxf5 Bxf5 22.f3 Ke6 23.fxe4 Bg4 24.Rd3 Rd8 1/2 : 1/2 Nevednichy,Vladislav 2615 - Riff, Jean-Noel 2724, Paleochora 2018

15...Qxf3 16.Bxf3 Be6 17.Rge1 Kd7 White has compensation for the pawn, but probably Black can equalise with accurate play.

18.Be3

18.c4 Rc8 19.b3 b5 20.Bxd5 Bxd5 21.Bc3 bxc4 22.Rxd5+ Kc6 23.bxc4 Bc5 = and Black is equalising.

18...Bd6 19.Bxd5 Bxd5

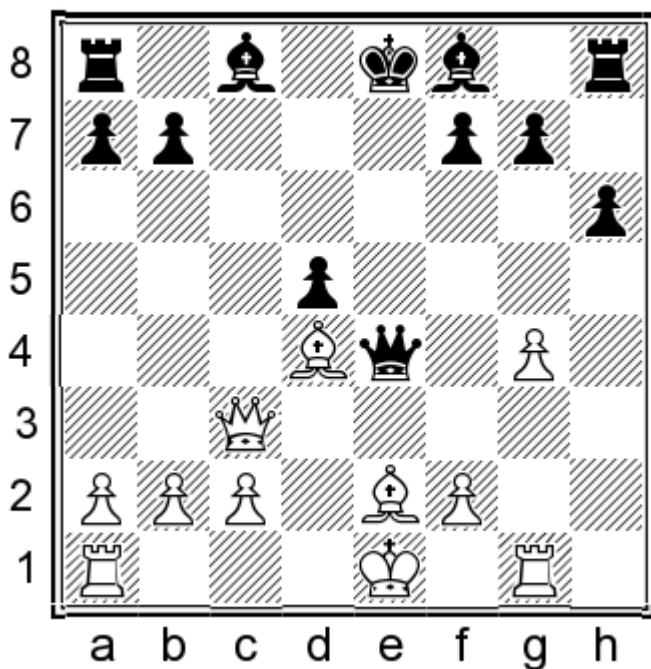
19...Bxg4? 20.Rd4f

20.Rxd5 Kc6 21.Red1 Rad8 22.c4 b6 23.b4 Be7 24.b5+ Kc7 25.Bf4+ Kc8
26.a4 Rxd5 27.Rxd5 g6 = Naiditsch,Yuliya 2375 - Vega Gutierrez,Sabrina
2404, Batumi (ol) 2018

CHAPTER 6

10...ed5/15.Qc3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.g4 h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1
d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 exd5 11.Be3 Qxh4 12.Qf3 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Qe7+
14.Be2 Qe4 15.Qc3



Of course, White keeps the queens on board.

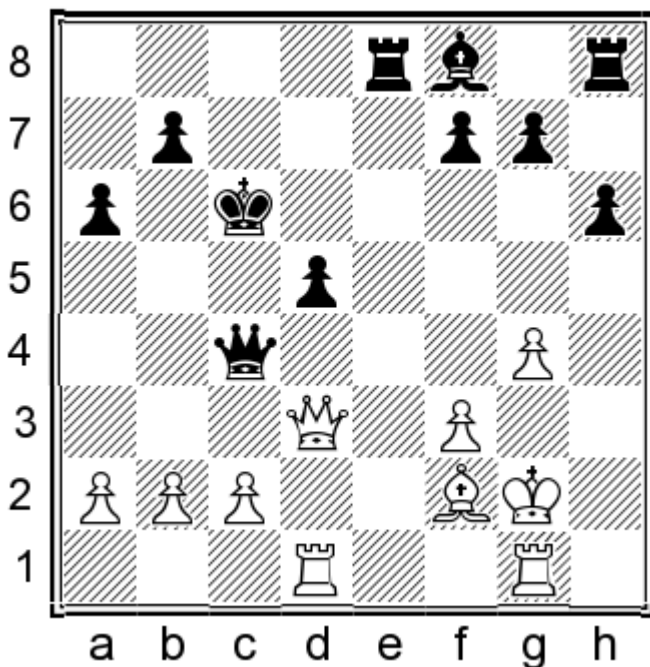
15.O-O-O is the other possibility. After 15...Qxf3 16.Bxf3 Be6 17.Rge1 Kd7!
Black should be able to keep the balance with a few precise moves. For
example: 18.Be5 (Vallejo Pons,Francisco 2687 - Yu,Yangyi 2736, Changsha
2019 - 141/ 66) 18...f6 19.Bc3 Bd6 20.Bxd5 Bxd5 21.Rxd5 Kc6 22.Rd4
Rhe8 =

15...Be6 16.f3 Qf4 17.Bb5+

In case of 17.Be5 Qa4! is the most precise reply by Black. He avoids Bb5 and 0-0-0, and he is also threatening with 18...Bb4. 18.b3 Qb4 19.Bxg7 Rg8 20.Bd4 Qxc3+ (20...Rc8 21.Qxb4 Bxb4+ 22.Kf2!? Rxc2 23.Rgc1©) 21.Bxc3 h5 1/2 : 1/2 Maze,Sebastien 2615 - Duda,Jan-Krzysztof 2724, France 2018 - 137/81, and draw was agreed, because Black can simplify the position without any difficulties.

17...Bd7 18.Be5! This was more accurate.

18.Bxd7+ Kxd7 19.Rd1 was more natural. However after (19.Qd3 Re8+ 20.Kf1 a6 White should have played 21.Rd1, when the position is far from clear, and Black can choose from many decent moves. For example: (21.Bf2? Qc4 22.Rd1 Kc6 23.b3, when Black remains a pawn up in the endgame after (23.Kg2?



23...Re2! White's previous move is obviously problematic, since Black can penetrate on the 2nd rank. 24.Rge1 Rxc2 (24...Qxd3 25.Rxd3 Rxc2-+ was more better.) 25.Qxc2! (25.Kg1 Qxd3 26.Rxd3 Bd6-+ Now, White is two pawns down, and his king is cut off from the 2nd rank. It should be a trivial win, but in blitz you never know... 27.Red1 Rd8 28.a4 Be5 29.b4 f6 30.b5+ axb5 31.axb5+ Kxb5 32.Rb1+ Kc6 33.Rdb3 d4 34.Rb6+ Kd5 35.R1b5+ Kc4 36.Rb4+ Kd3 37.Rxb7 Ra8 38.Rb3+ Easily winning was 38...Rc3!-+ . (38...Ke2 39.Kg2 d3 40.R7b4 d2 41.Re4+ Kd1 42.f4 Rb2 43.Rd3 Kc2 44.Rxd2+ Kxd2 45.fxe5 fxe5 46.Rxe5 Kd3 47.Kg3 Rb7 48.Rd5+ Ke4

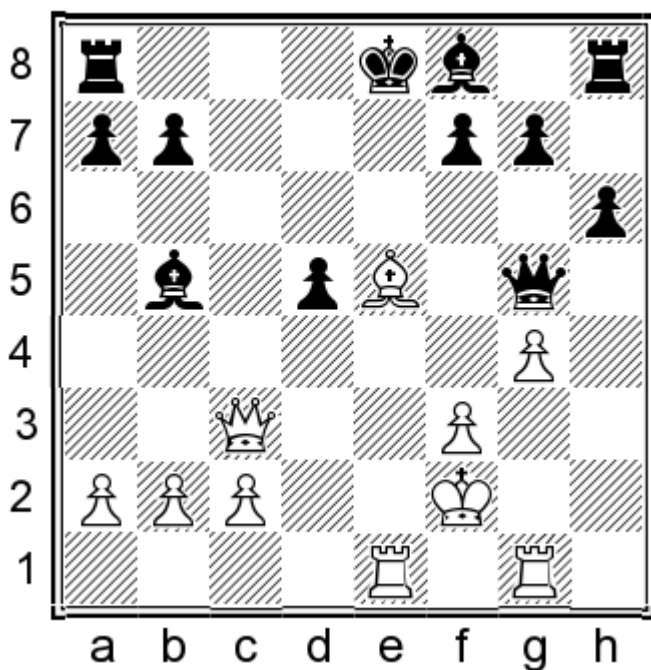
49.Rd4+ Ke5! 50.Rd3 Rab8 51.Re3+ Kf6 52.Rf3+ Kg6 53.Rf5 Rb3+ 54.Kh4 R8b5 55.Rf4 R5b4 56.Rf5 Rb5 57.Rf4 R3b4 58.Rf3 h5 59.Rg3 Rg5 0 : 1 Nepomniachtchi,Ian 2763 - Duda,Jan-Krzysztof 2738, Saint Petersburg (blitz 2018)) 25...Qxc2 26.Rc1 Qxc1 27.Rxc1+ Kd7 28.Rd1 Bd6μ) 23...Qxd3+ 24.Rxd3 Bb4 25.c3 Bd6, but it's not a trivial task to convert it.) 21...Bd6 22.Qb3 Kc8 23.Qxd5 Re6 where the engine doesn't really care, but especially in blitz it feels easier to play with Black, thanks to much better king.) 19...Re8+ 20.Kf1 Bd6 the position doesn't change much, and it's the usual Sicilian mess.

18...Qg5

18...Qb4?! 19.Bxg7 Rc8 20.Qxb4 Bxb4+ 21.c3 Rg8 22.Bxd7+ Kxd7 23.Bd4² with a better endgame for White.

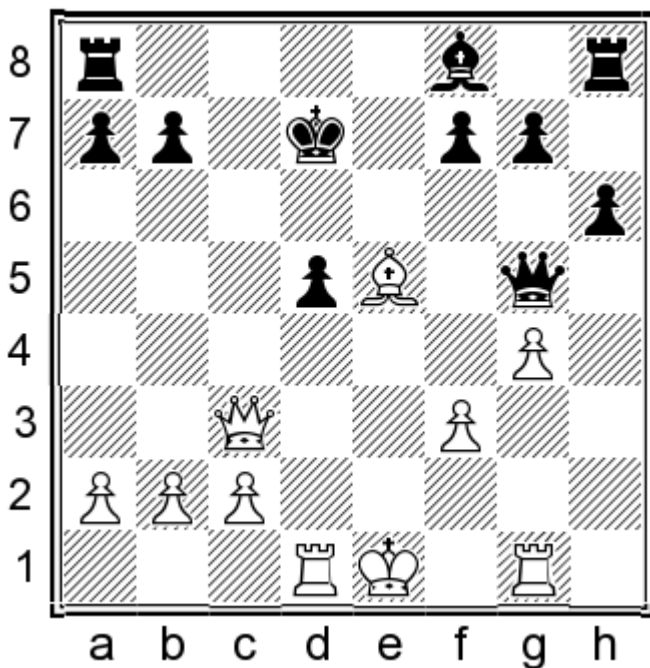
19.Bxd7+

19.Kf2!? Bxb5 20.Rae1



20...Be7! 21.Bd6 O-O 22.Bxe7 Qf4∞

19...Kxd7 20.Rd1

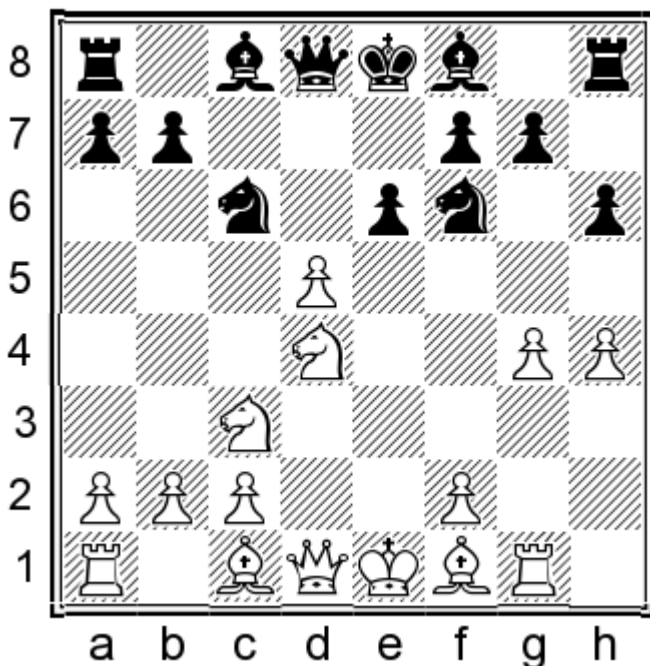


20.Qc7+ Ke8 followed by ...Be7.

20...Bb4! Holds the balance: 21.Qxb4 Qe3+ 22.Kf1 Qxf3+ =

Conclusion

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1 d5 9.exd5



Basically, this couldn't really be labeled as a sharp line. Even in the 10...Qd5 variation, in which Black avoids the isolated pawn structure, the queens are exchanged after a few moves. Capturing the pawn with 11...Qh4 is the modern route, which will put pressure on White to play carefully. The variation is sufficiently fresh, as of now we are waiting for new games utilising this new idea. So, the future will tell!

NEW IDEAS AND TRENDS IN THE ROSSOLIMO

Miloš Perunović



• **Country:** Serbia

• **Born:** 1984

• **Rating:** 2567

• **Peak rating:** 2641

• **Title:** Grandmaster since 2004

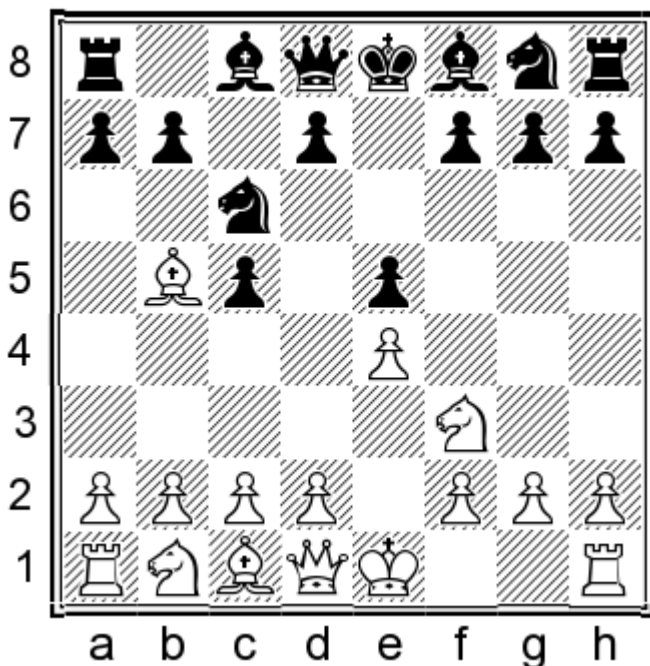
We continue our journey through the vast Sicilian territory by examining some of the latest ideas in the Rossolimo variation. For quite a while this variation was used in order to eschew terrifying labyrinths of the Open Sicilians. However, during the past decade or so it became a frequent guest in tournament practice. Black has a great number of options on move 3., but in this article I will focus on some less played continuations that offer reach play and chances for both sides.

Without further ado, let's start analysing!

CHAPTER 1

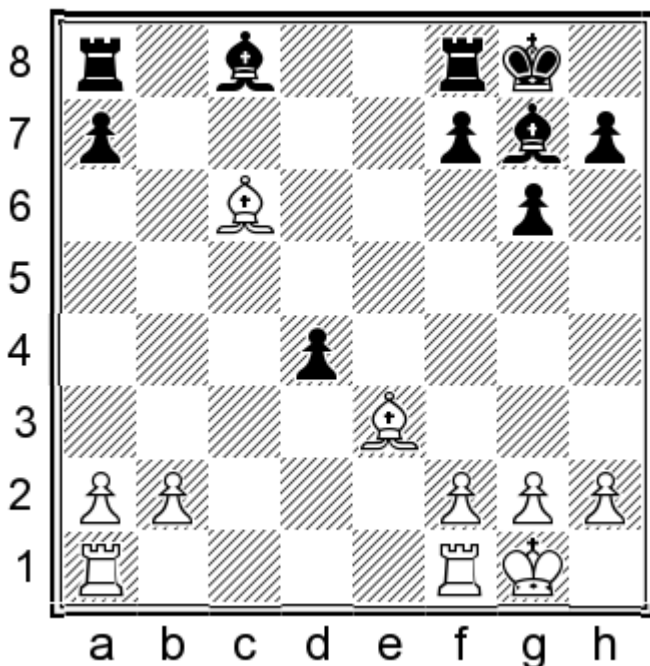
3...e5/4...Nge7

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e5



4.O-O Nge7 5.Bc4 This prophylaxis is aimed against the black fianchetto, and also against the d5-pawn push. However, Dubov thinks otherwise. ..

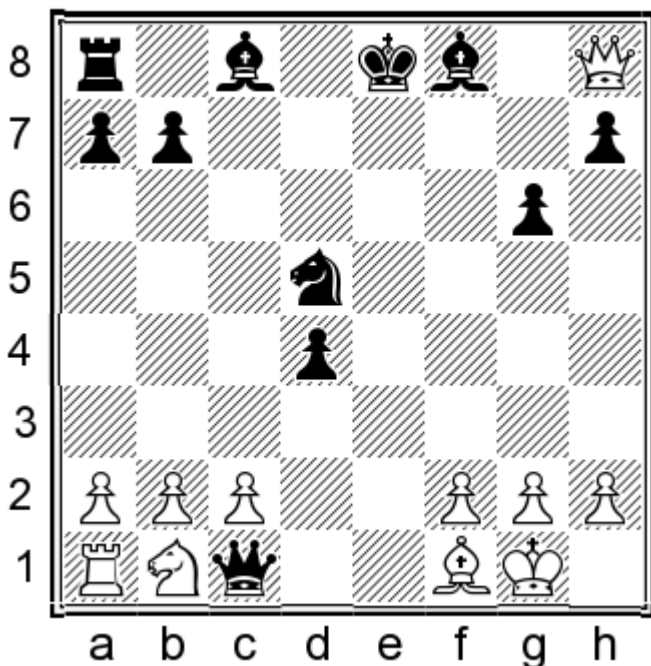
5.c3 g6 6.d4 exd4 7.cxd4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 (8.Bf4 Bg7 9.Bd6 a6 10.Ba4 b5 11.Bb3 Bb7 ∞ Caruana,Fabiano 2828 - Carlsen,Magnus 2863, Stavanger 2020 - 146/44, B 31) 8...Bg7 9.Be3 O-O 10.Nc3 d5 11.exd5 Nb4!? (The old line 11...Nxd5 leads to an unfavourable ending for Black by force. 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Nxd5 Qxd5 (13...cxb5 14.Bc5 Re8 15.Be7 Qd7 (15...Qa5 16.Bf6 ±) 16.Rc1!²) 14.Qxd5 cxd5 15.Bc6 d4



16.Bf4! (16.Bxa8 dxe3 17.Rfe1 exf2+ 18.Kxf2 Be6 19.Be4 Rb8©) 16...Ba6 17.Bxa8 Bxf1 18.Kxf1 Rxa8 19.Rc1² and Black would have to give his very best in order to secure a draw.) 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.a3 (14.Re1 Qf6 15.Nb3 Bf5 16.Rc1 Qb6 17.Bf1 Rad8© Giri, Anish 2780 - Dubov, Daniil 2710, chess24.com (Internet-m/11-blitz) 2021) 14...Qf6 15.Ne6 (15.Nf3 Na6 16.Re1 Nc7 17.Bf1 Ne8© The knight reaches the ideal d6-point. Also, the bishop pair grants Black a decent compensation for the sacrificed material.) 15...fxe6 16.axb4 exd5 17.Qxd5+ Kh7©

5...d5 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.Re1

Direct attempt 7.Nxe5 does not offer more than a draw. 7...Nxe5 8.Re1 f6 (If Black wishes to fight for more he may go for 8...Bd6!? 9.Bxd5 O-O© with the position that resembles some of the Marshall Attack lines.) 9.d4 cxd4 10.Rxe5+ fxe5 11.Qh5+ g6 12.Qxe5+ Qe7 13.Qxh8 Qe1+ 14.Bf1 Qxc1



15.Nc3! Qxa1 16.Nxd5 = and Black cannot eschew the perpetual.

7.Nc3 Nb6 8.Bb5 f6 9.d3 Be7 ∞

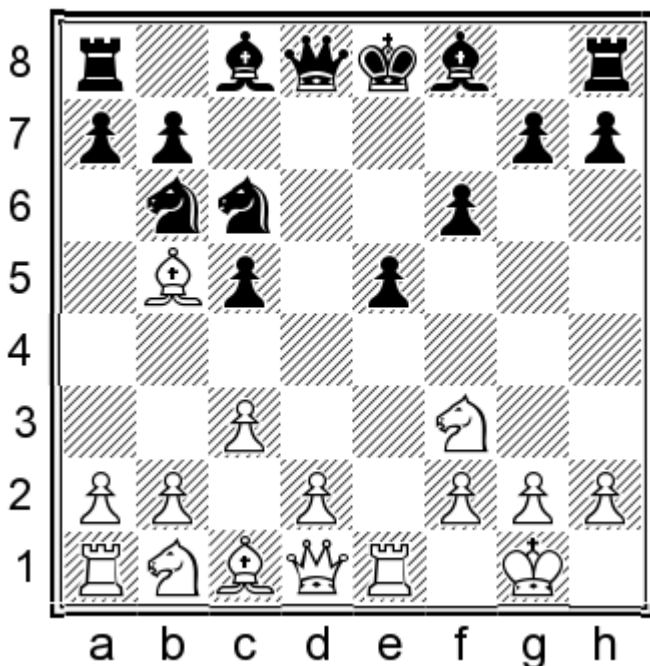
7...f6 At a first glance Black's position appears to be very shaky. But, it is not obvious how White should proceed. It seems quite reasonable to conduct a central attack since the black king remained in the centre. Now, we will examine two logical continuations: 8.c3 and 8.d4. The alternatives don't pose any problems for Black.

8.c3

8.d4 Nb6 9.Bb5 cxd4 10.Nxd4 a6!? (10...Bd7 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd3 Be6 13.Qh5+ Bf7 14.Qf3 Qd7) 11.Qh5+ g6 12.Bxc6+ bxc6 13.Qf3 Bg7 14.Nxc6 Qc7 15.Nb4 Bb7 16.Qb3 a5 17.Qe6+ Qe7 18.Qxb6 Qxb4 19.Qe6+ Qe7 20.Qxe7+ Kxe7©;

8.Nc3 Be6 ∞

8...Nb6 9.Bb5



9...Kf7!? A paradoxical idea. Black renounces castling and exposes his king on the open light-square diagonal.

10.d4

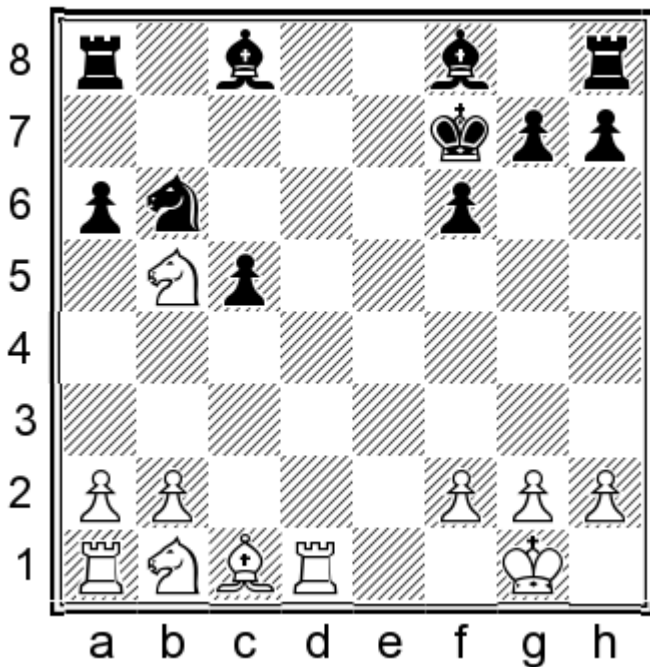
10.a4 a6 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.d4 exd4 13.a5 Nd5 14.cxd4 c4 15.Qe2 Nb4
16.Qxc4+ Qd5 17.Qe2 Bf5 18.Nc3 Qd7©

10...cxd4 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.cxd4 exd4 13.Nxd4 c5 14.Nb5

14.Qh5+ g6 15.Nc6 Qd5 ∞;

14.Qb3+ Qd5 15.Nc3 Qxb3 16.Nxb3 Bf5 ∞

14...Qxd1 15.Rxd1 a6 ∞

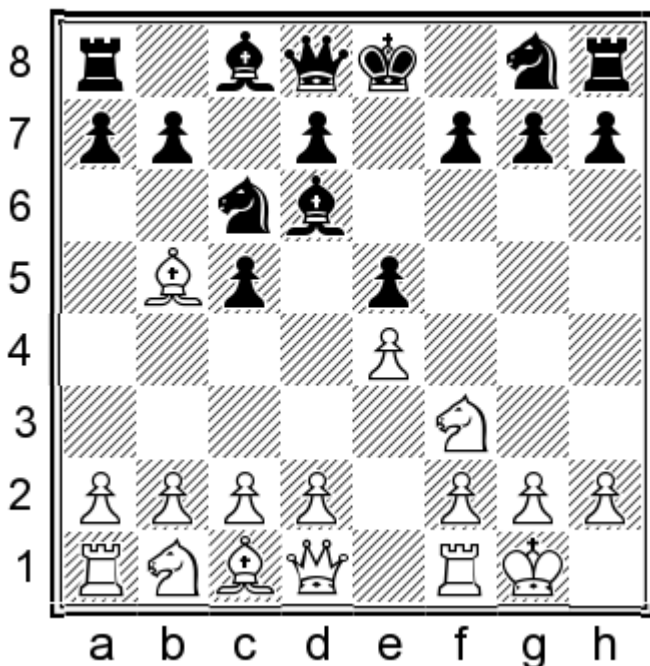


Vitugov,Nikita 2715 - Dubov,Daniil 2710, Russia 2021

CHAPTER 2

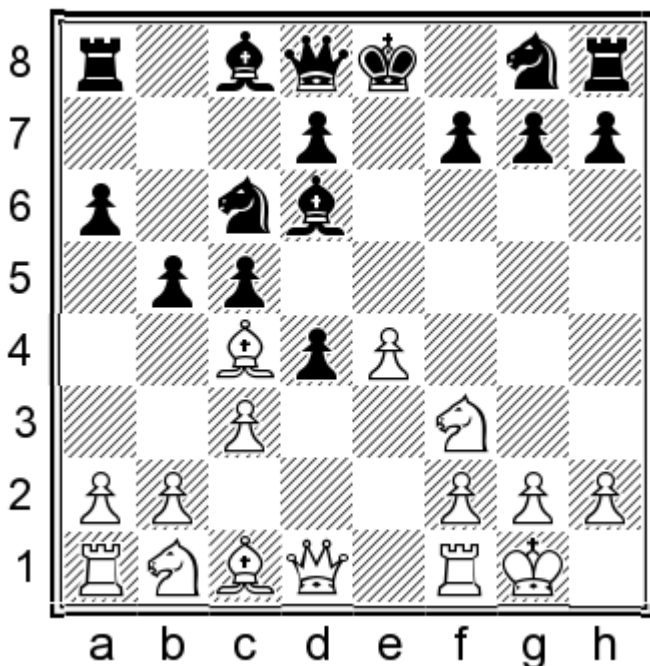
3....e5/4...Bd6

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e5 4.O-O Bd6

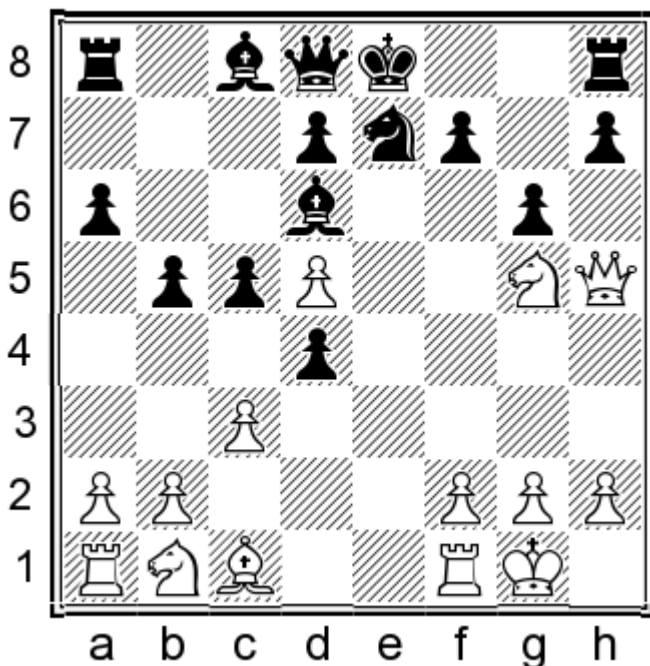


Baduur Jobava, a true chess genius, came to this idea. Black's plan consists of: Nge7, 0-0, Bc7 and d5. In order to fight for advantage White must take some very concrete measures. The most promising continuations are 5.c3 with the idea of d4, or 5. d4 right away with highly entertaining positions. **5.c3**

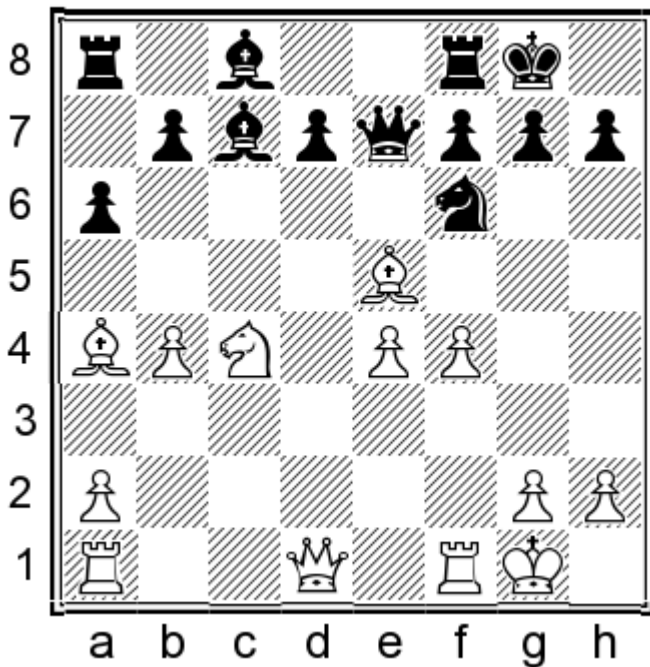
5.d4!? Nxd4 (5...exd4 6.c3 a6 7.Bc4 b5



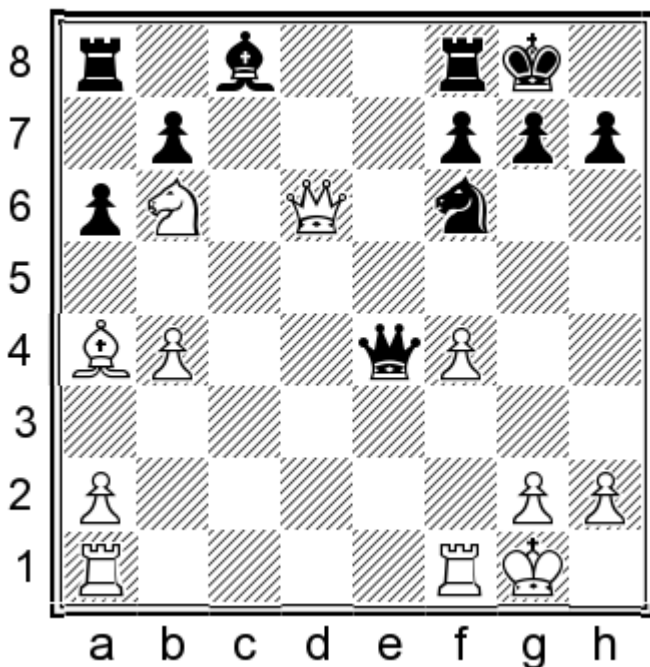
8.Bd5! The biggest problem for Black is the weak f7-point and Ng5 threat.
 (8.e5 Bc7 9.Bd5 Nge7 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.cxd4 cxd4 13.Nbd2 O-O∞ Grischuk,Alexander 2777 - Carlsen, Magnus 2863, chess24.com
 (Internet-rapid) 2020) 8...Nge7 9.Ng5! Nxd5 10.exd5 Ne7 (10...Ne5 11.cxd4 cxd4 12.f4 Nc4 13.b3 Ne3 14.Qxd4 Nf5 15.Qd3 h6 (15...Qf6? 16.Ne4 Qxa1 17.Nxd6+ Nxd6 18.Qe2+ Kf8 19.Bb2 +-) 16.Re1+ Kf8 17.Ne4 ±) 11.Qh5 Ng6 (11...g6



12.Ne4!! The climax of this line deserves a diagram! 12...Qc7 (12...gxh5 13.Nf6+ Kf8 14.Bh6#) 13.Qh4 +-) 12.Re1+ Kf8 13.Nd2 ±) 6.Nxd4 (6.Bc4 Nxf3+ 7.Qxf3 Nf6 8.Qg3 O-O 9.Nc3 Nh5 10.Qf3 Nf6 11.Bg5 Be7 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.Rfd1) 6...cxd4 7.c3 Bc5 8.b4 Bb6 9.Bb2 a6 10.Ba4 Black keeps the bishop on the a4-e8 diagonal this hindering development of the black pieces. 10...dxc3 11.Bxc3 At a first glance it does not seem logical to capture with the bishop. However, the bishop capture is a much more concrete and dangerous move. Also, the knight capture allows Black to fortify his position by playing Bd4. (11.Nxc3 Bd4 12.Rb1 Nf6 (12...Ne7 13.Ne2! Bxb2 14.Rxb2 Qb6 15.Qc1 O-O 16.Qc5 Qf6 17.Rd2© Najer,Evgeniy 2648 - Samusenko,Maksim 2469, Russia 2021) 13.Nd5 Bxb2 14.Rxb2 b5 15.Bb3 Bb7 White lost the initiative and must fight to justify the pawn deficit.) 11...Qe7 12.Nd2 Nf6 13.Nc4 (13.Bxe5!? Qxe5 14.Nc4 Qd4 15.Nd6+ Kf8 16.Qxd4 Bxd4 17.Rac1 Nxe4! 18.Nxe4 d5 ∞) 13...Bc7 14.f4 O-O 15.Bxe5



15...d6! 16.Nxd6 (16.Bxd6 Bxd6 17.Qxd6 (17.Nxd6 Nxe4 =) 17...Qxe4
18.Nb6

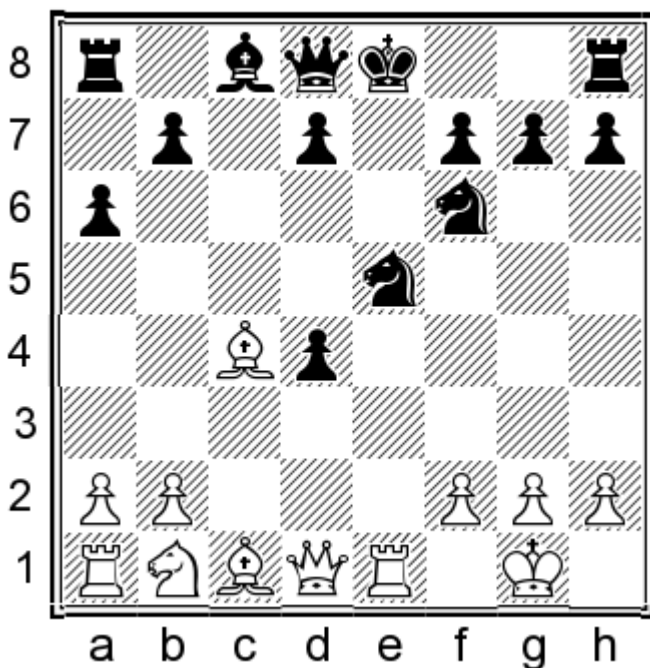


18...Bh3! Right on time! Black holds his position together by executing a

tactical stroke. Curiously, White cannot stop Black's idea of perpetual check after Bh3. 19.gxh3 Qe3+ 20.Kh1 Qe4+ =) 16...Be6 Suddenly, it is Black who is down a pawn with better piece placement. Also, the white pawns are overextended. 17.Bxf6 (17.Rc1 Bb6+ 18.Kh1 Ng4f) 17...Qxd6 18.Qxd6 Bxd6 19.Bc3 b5 20.Bb3 Rfc8 21.Bd2 Bxb3 22.axb3 Rc2©

5...a6 6.Ba4

6.Bc4 Nf6! 7.d4 cxd4 8.cxd4 exd4 9.e5 (9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Qc7 11.h3 b5 12.Bb3 Bb7 Transposing into the main variation after 6.Ba4) 9...Bxe5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.Re1



11...O-O! The crucial point of Black's idea! 12.Rxe5 Qc7 13.Qxd4 d5 Black gives back the piece and equalises. 14.Nc3 Qxc4 15.Rxd5 Qxd4 16.Rxd4 =

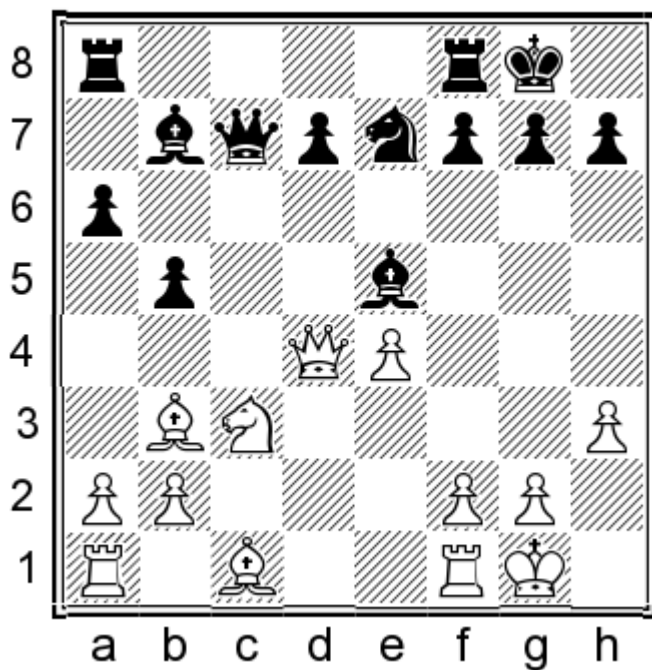
6...b5 7.Bc2 Nge7 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 cxd4 10.Nxd4

10.Nbd2 Bb7 11.Nb3 Qc7 12.h3 Rc8 13.Nbxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 (14.Nxd4 Bc5 15.Bb1 O-O∞ followed by d5) 14...O-O 15.Bb3 Nc6 16.Qd1 Ne5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.Re1 Rfe8∞ Grandelius,Nils 2663 - Caruana,Fabiano 2823, Wijk aan Zee 2021

10...Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Qc7 12.h3

12.Qd3 Bxh2+ 13.Kh1 Bf4 14.Nc3 Bxc1 15.Raxc1 Bb7

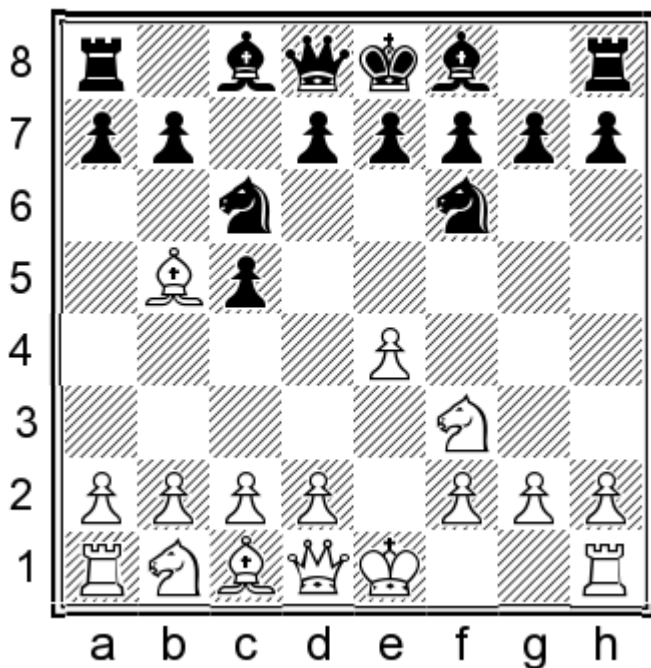
12...Bb7 13.Bb3 O-O 14.Nc3 Be5∞



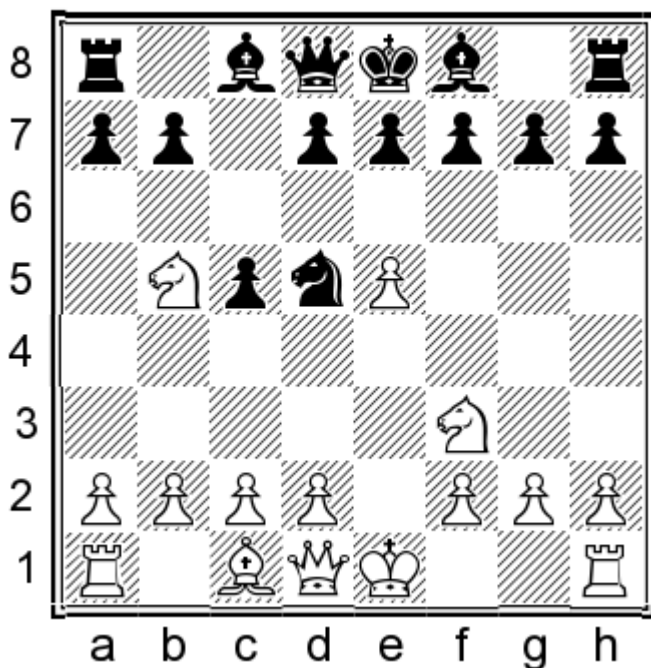
CHAPTER 3

3...Nf6/4...Nd4

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6



4.Nc3 Nd4 5.e5 Nxb5 6.Nxb5 Nd5



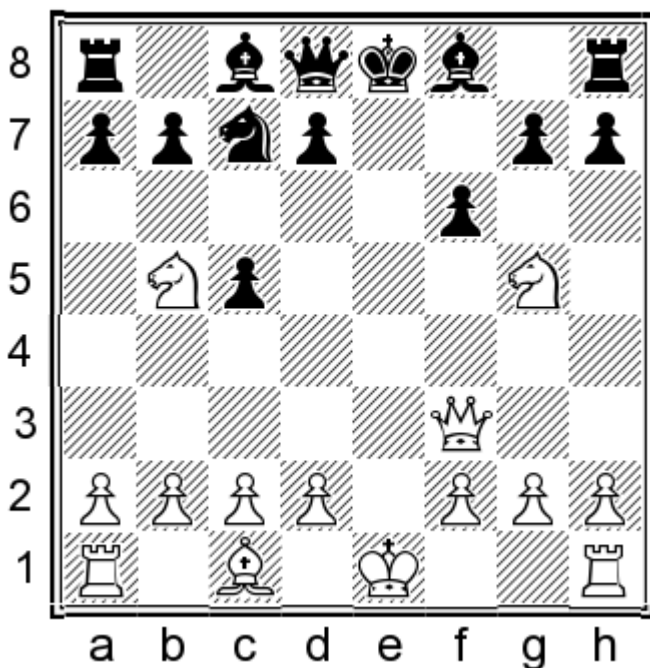
7.Ng5 For long time this move was considered as advantageous for White. However...

7.O-O! The critical test for this whole line. 7...a6 8.Nc3 Nxc3 9.dxc3 d5 10.exd6 Qxd6 (10...exd6 11.Bf4 Be7 12.Qd3 O-O 13.Rfd1 d5 14.Qxd5 Qxd5 15.Rxd5 Be6 16.Rd2 Rfd8 17.Re2 h6² Black has a decent compensation for the pawn in light of his strong bishop pair. But, that should be enough only for a draw.) 11.Qe2 f6 12.Rd1 Qc7²

7...f6 8.Qf3

8.Ne4 f5 9.Nbc3 (9.Nec3 Nb4!? 10.a3 Nc6 11.Nd5 Kf7! ∞) 9...Nxc3 (9...fxe4!? 10.Nxd5 e6 11.Nf4 (11.Nc3 Qg5 ∞) 11...Qg5 12.Qh5+ Qxh5 13.Nxh5 b5 ∞) 10.Nxc3 d6 (10...d5 11.d4 e6 12.Be3 b6 ∞ We reached an interesting position with the pawn structure that resembles the French Defence, as in Lagarde,Maxime 2657 - Abasov,Nijat 2632, chess24.com (Internet-m/ 1-b blitz) 2020) 11.O-O!? dxe5 12.Qe2 e6 13.Qxe5 Qd6 14.Qe2 Be7 ∞ Caruana,Fabiano 2819 - Carlsen,Magnus 2875, Stavanger (blitz) 2019 8.exf6 Nxf6 ∞

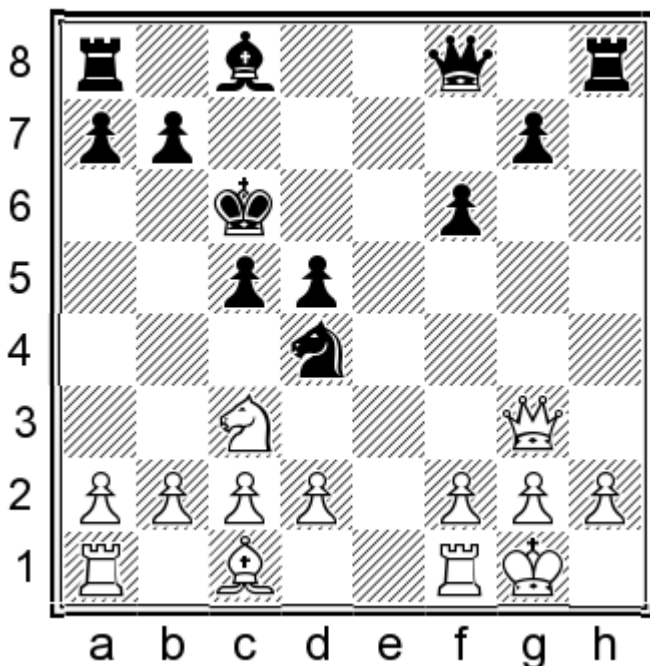
8...Nc7 9.exf6 exf6



10.Qh5+

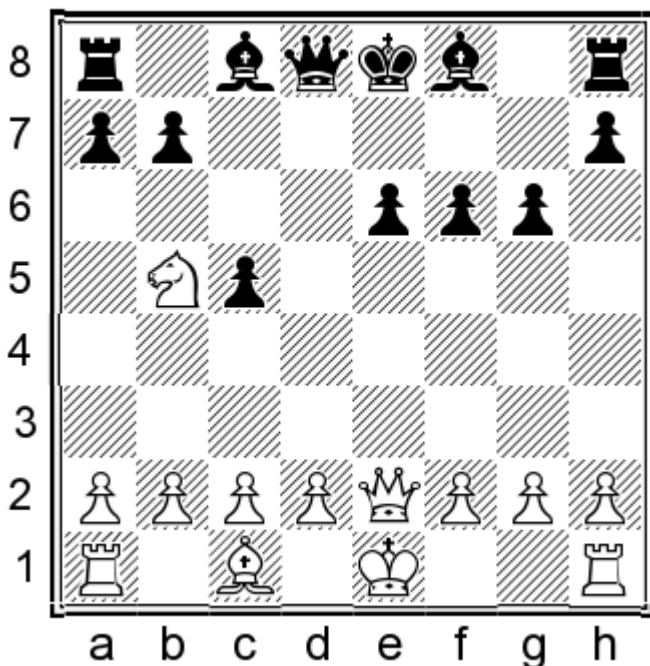
10.Qe4+ White wins a pawn. For quite a while this line was considered to be unplayable for Black, but things have changed recently. 10...Ne6 11.Nxh7 d5 12.Qg6+ Kd7 13.Nxf8+ (13.O-O? Kc6 14.Nxf8 Qxf8 15.Qd3 g5µ) 13...Qxf8 14.d3 (14.Nc3 Bringing the knight back to c3 and losing the control over the

d4-square offer Black a strong initiative. 14...Nd4 15.Kd1 (15.Nxd5? Kc6 16.Ne3 Qe7μ The Bf5 cannot be prevented.; 15.O-O? Kc6 16.Qg3



16...Qd6!μ (16...Nxc2?! 17.d4!! ∞)) 15...Kc6 16.d3 Rh4!f) 14...Qe8 15.Qxe8+ (15.Qg4?? Kd8!- +) 15...Rxe8 16.a4 b6 17.Bd2 Bb7 18.O-O Bc6 19.Nc3 Nd4 20.Rac1 Nf5© Black has more than sufficient compensation thanks to the active position of his pieces.

10...g6 11.Qe2+ Ne6 12.Nxe6 dxe6



13.b3! White intends to fianchetto his bishop and castle long. Then he should be ready for action in the centre and on the kingside.

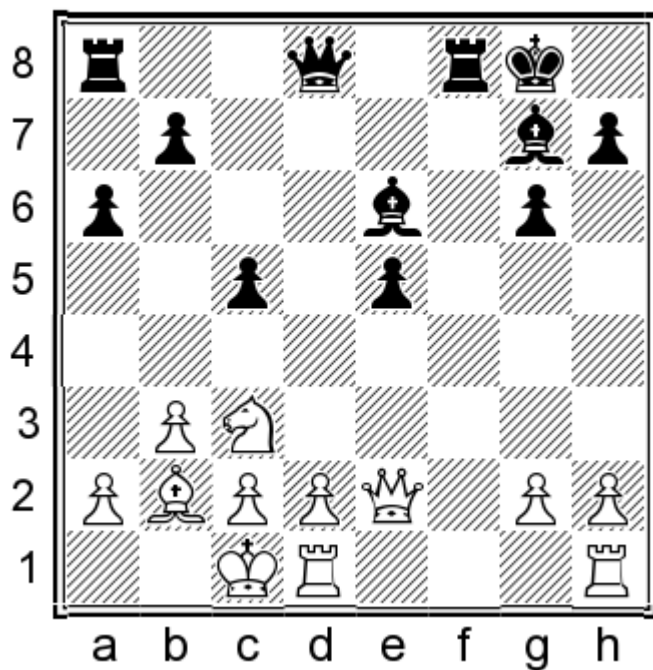
13...Bg7

13...Bd7 14.Bb2 Kf7 15.O-O-O a6 16.Nc3 Bc6² So, Wesley 2770 - Carlsen, Magnus 2863, chess24.com (Internet-m/8-bltz) 2020

14.Bb2 a6 15.Nc3 e5 16.f4

16.O-O-O b5 ∞

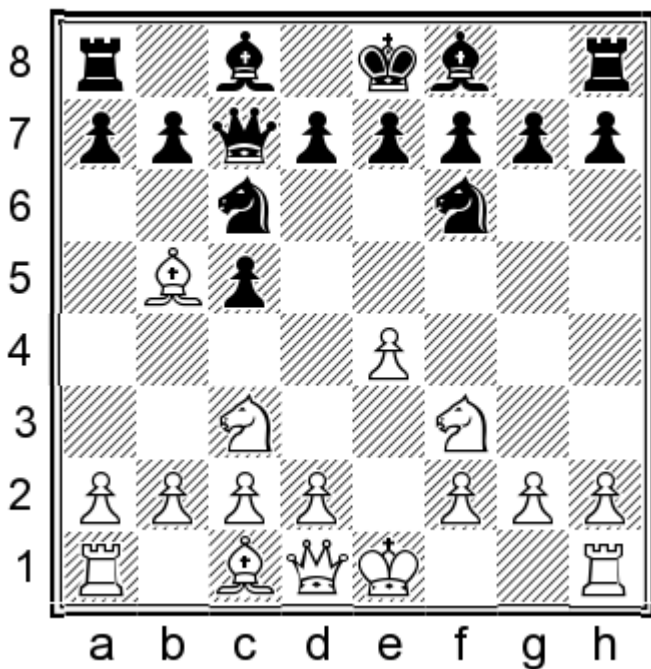
16...O-O 17.fxe5 fxe5 18.O-O-O Be6 ∞



CHAPTER 4

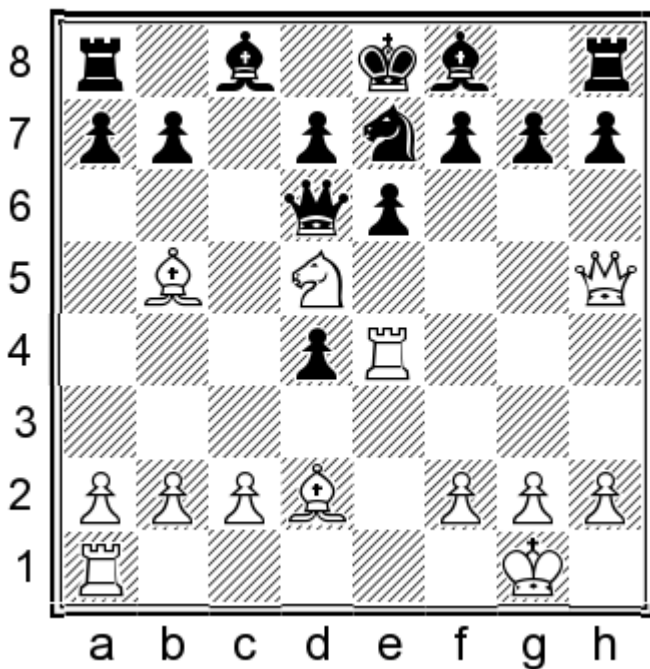
3...Nf6/4...Qc7

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Nc3 Qc7

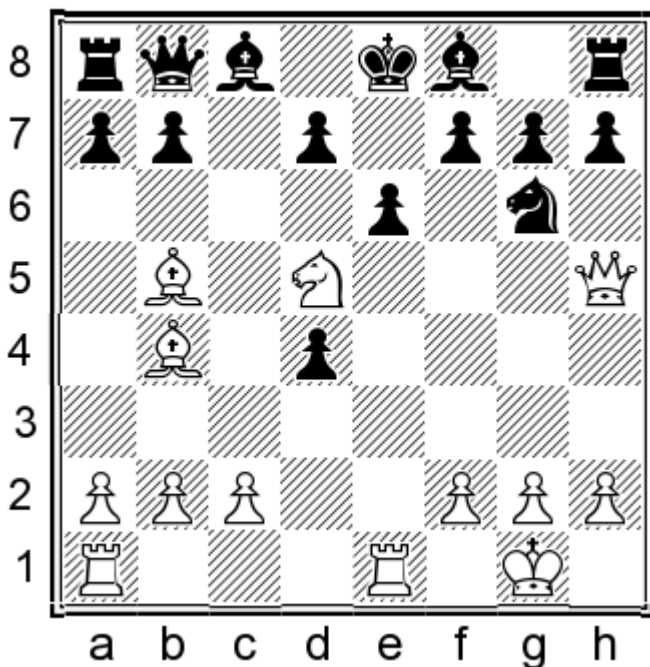


5.O-O Nd4 6.Re1 a6

6...Ng4? 7.e5! Nxf3+ 8.Qxf3 Nxe5 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.d4 cxd4 11.Nd5 Qd6
12.Bd2 e6 13.Bb4 (13.Re4 Ne7??)



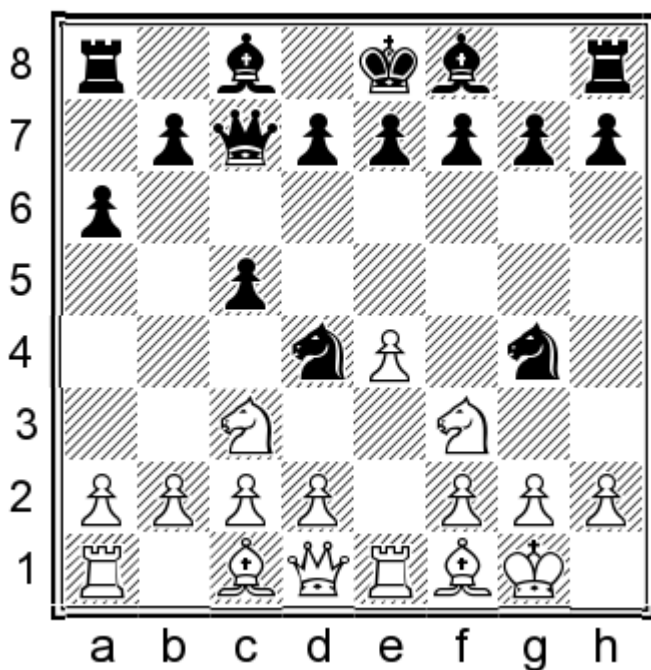
14.Rxe6! 1 : 0 Delchev, Aleksander 2531 - Ivanovic,Marko 2264, Pirot 2020)
13...Qb8



14.Rxe6+!! fxe6 15.Re1 +- Black cannot save this position.

The 6...e5?! move weakens the d5-point and gives White a lasting advantage.

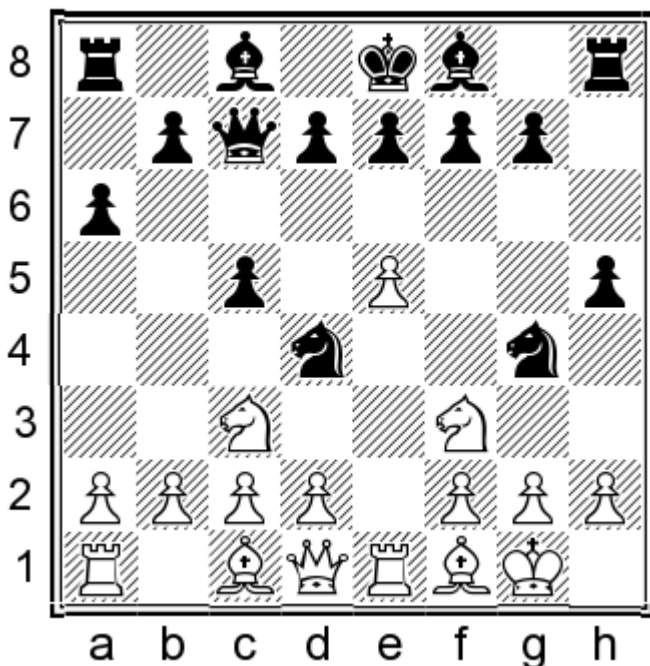
7.Bf1 Ng4



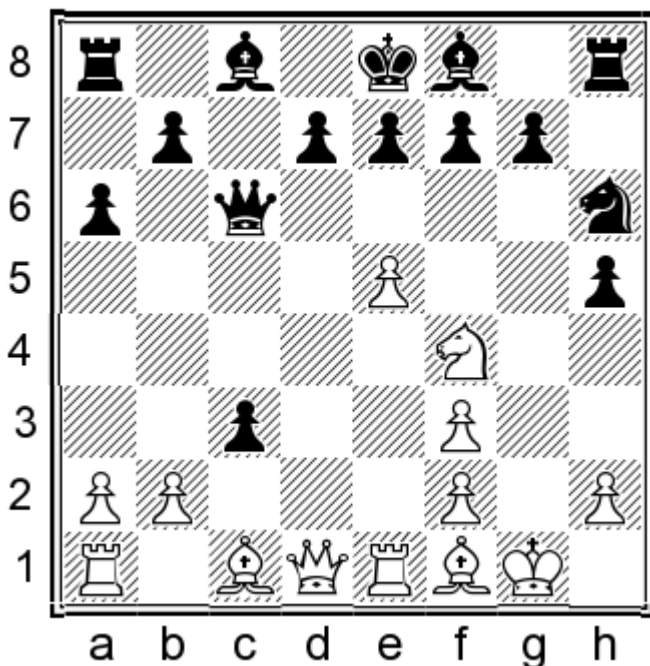
8.e5!? A new idea that changes the character of the position. White obtains advantage in development and initiative by means of pawn sacrifice.

8...Nxf3+

8...h5



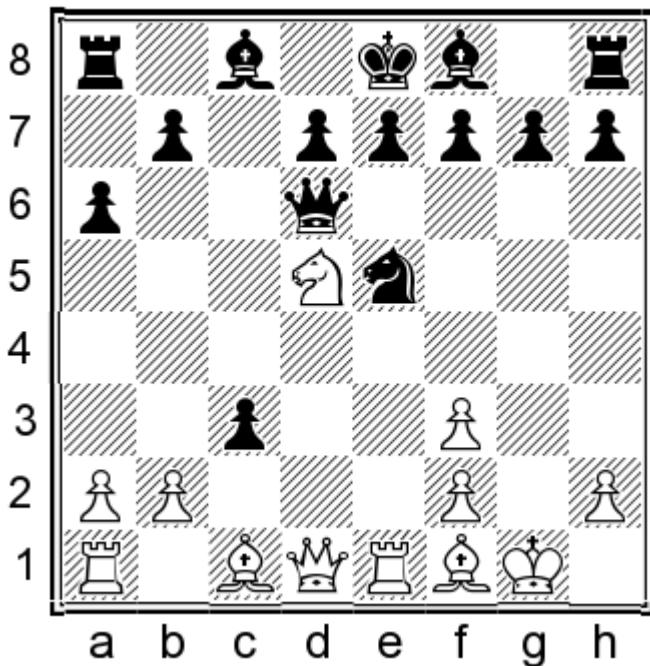
This is Sergey Zhigalko's idea. The 8...h5 move is typical for modern treatment of the opening phase. The analysis shows some edge for White, but only if he plays in extremely precise and creative fashion. From the practical standpoint, 8...h5 is a very decent move. Besides, the Belarus grandmaster is the most experienced practitioner of the 3...Nf6 line with more than 70 games played. 9.Nd5 (My first encounter with the 8...h5 move was at the Rapid World Championship, Moscow 2019. I was very surprised and reacted in a rather tame manner by playing 9.d3 ; Black reached equality very soon. 9...e6! 10.Bf4 d6 11.exd6 Bxd6 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.g3 ∞ Perunovic,Milos 2589 - Zhigalko,Sergei 2571, Moscow (rapid) 2019) 9...Qc6 10.Nf4 Nxf3+ (10...d6 11.Nxd4 cxd4 12.e6 g5 (12...Bxe6 13.Nxe6 fxe6 14.h3 Ne5 (14...Nf6 15.Rxe6 ±) 15.c3 d3 16.Rxe5! dxe5 17.Bxd3 ±) 13.Nxh5 Ne5 (13...f5 14.Bd3 Qd5 15.h3 + - Motylev,Alexander 2641 - Zhigalko,Sergei 2572, chess.com (Internet-bltz) 2021 (15.Ng3 + -)) 14.exf7+ Kxf7 15.Ng3 ±) 11.gxf3 Nh6 12.d4 cxd4 13.c3 d5 (13...dxc3



14.Re3! Initiative! 14...c2 15.Qe2 e6 16.Rc3 Qb6 17.Qxc2 Qd8 18.Be3 ±)
 14.e6!? However, I must admit that I am not sure why White's advantage
 seems so obvious for the mighty engines. Also, the 14.e6 seems to be
 completely in the spirit of the whole variation, so it attracted me a lot! Of
 course, readers are invited to choose the continuation they find most suitable.
 (Computer claims that White has the advantage after 14.cxd4; or 14.exd6)
 14...Bxe6 15.Rxe6 fxe6 16.Ng6 Nf7 17.cxd4f

9.Qxf3

Quite interesting complications occur after 9.gxf3!? Nxe5 10.d4 cxd4 11.Nd5
 Qd6 12.c4 dxc3

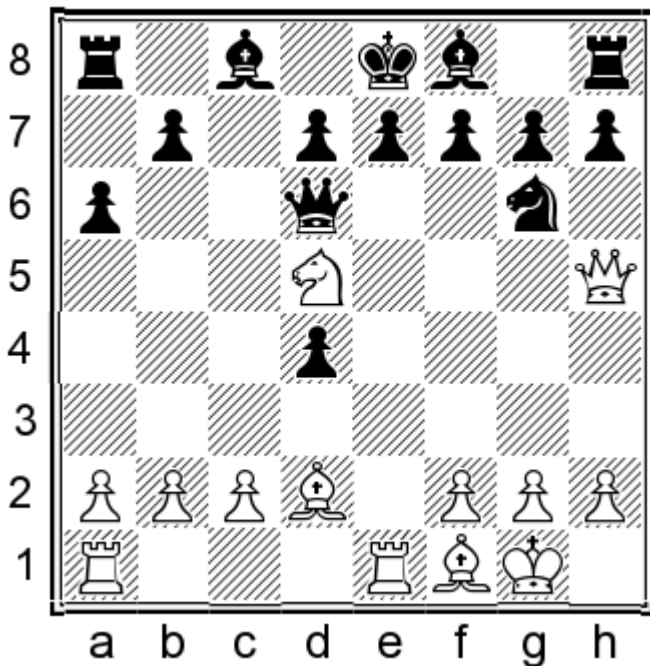


13.Rxe5! Qxe5 14.Bf4 Qf5 15.Bg3 cxb2 16.Rb1©

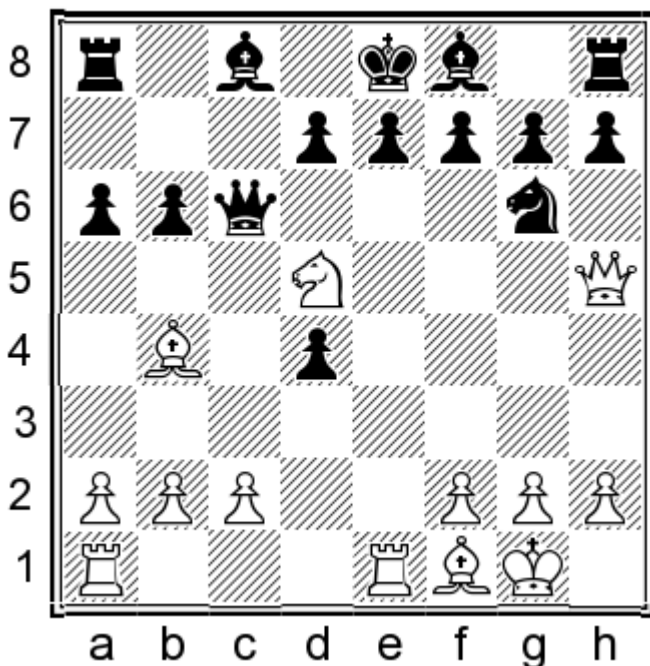
9...Nxe5 10.Qh5 d6

10...Nc6? 11.Nd5 Qd8 12.d4 Nxd4 13.Bc4 Ne6 14.Bf4 +-

The young Polish star Jan-Krzysztof Duda was obviously surprised here and played a somewhat weaker continuation. 10...Ng6 11.Nd5 Qd6 12.d4! cxd4 13.Bd2



13...b6 (13...e6? 14.Ba5 b6 15.Bxb6 Nf4 Apparently, this was Black's idea when he went for 13...e6. 16.Qh4! +- The mate threat on d8 can be easily overlooked, Harikrishna,Pentala 2730 - Duda,Jan Krzysztof 2731, Praha 2019) 14.Bb4 Qc6



15.Bxe7! Nxe7 16.Rxe7+ Bxe7 17.Re1 Kd8 18.Nxe7 Qc5 19.Qf3
 (19.Nf5!?→; 19.Qxf7→) 19...Re8 (19...Rb8 20.Qf4 Ra8 21.Re5 Qxc2
 22.Qg5 f6 (22...Bb7 23.Nd5+ Kc8 24.Nxb6+ Kb8 25.Re7 +-) 23.Qxg7 fxe5
 24.Nd5 +-) 20.Qxa8 Rxe7 21.Rxe7 Kxe7 22.Qe4+ Kf8 23.Qxh7²

11.f4 Nc6 12.Nd5 Qd8 13.b3

13.f5!? Nb4! 14.Nxb4 cxb4 15.Bc4 d5 16.Bb3©

13...e6

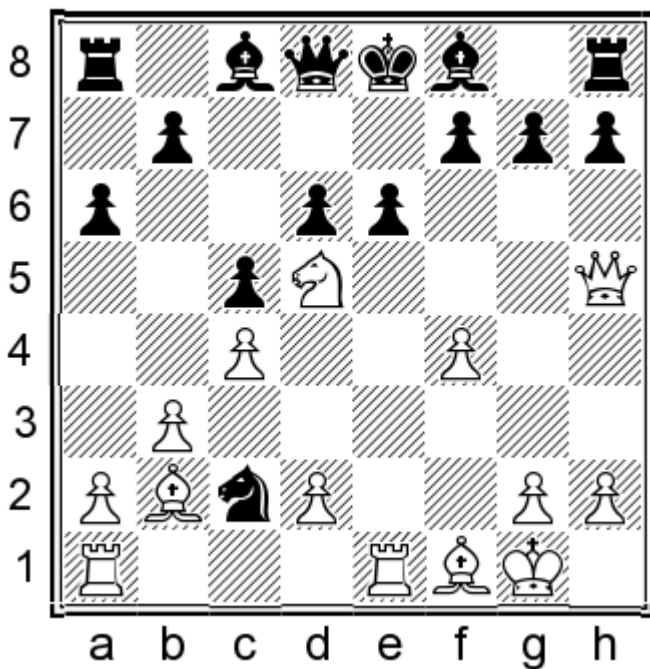
13...Nb4 14.Bb2 Nxd5 15.Qxd5 e6 16.Qf3f Followed by d4. White has a strong initiative.

14.Bb2 Nd4 We reach a crucial crossroads for White, since he must choose to play the position with the pawn on c2, or c4.

15.c3

15.Bxd4 cxd4 16.f5 g6 (16...e5?! 17.c3 dxc3 18.d4 ±) 17.fxg6 fxg6 18.Qg4 e5 19.Qxd4 Be6 (19...Bg7 20.Nb6 Rb8 21.Nxc8 Rxc8 22.Bc4 ±) 20.Qa4+ Bd7 21.Qf4 Bg7 22.d4f

15...Nc2 16.c4



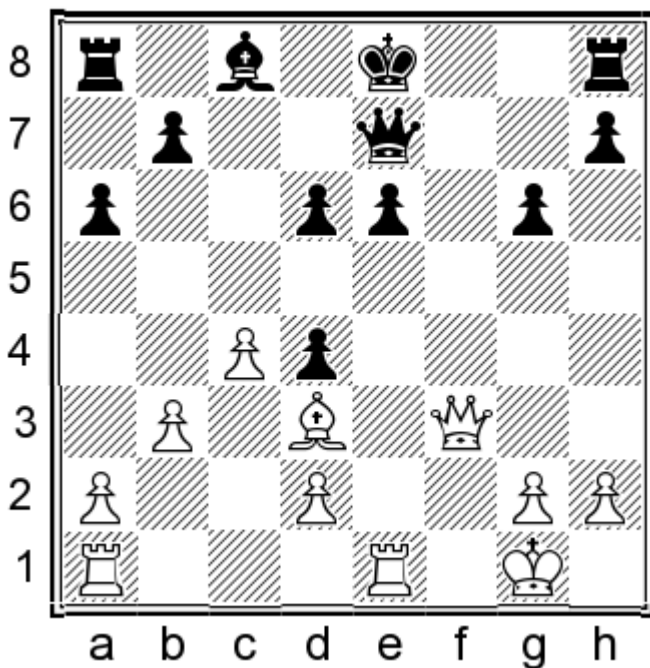
16...Nd4!

16...Nxa1 17.Bxa1 Kd7 18.Qxf7+ Kc6 19.Rxe6! Bxe6 20.Qxe6 ±

17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.f5 g6 19.fxg6 fxg6 20.Qf3 Be7

20...Bg7?! 21.Bd3 e5 22.Rf1 Be6 23.Be4 ±

21.Nxe7 Qxe7 22.Bd3²

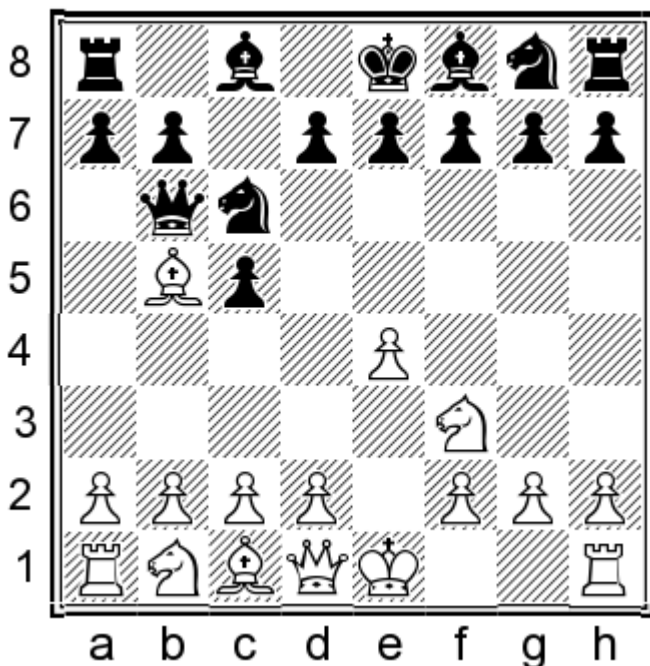


White will take the d4-pawn and claim a lasting advantage thanks to his superior pawn structure and poor position of the black king.

CHAPTER 5

3...Qb6

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Qb6!?

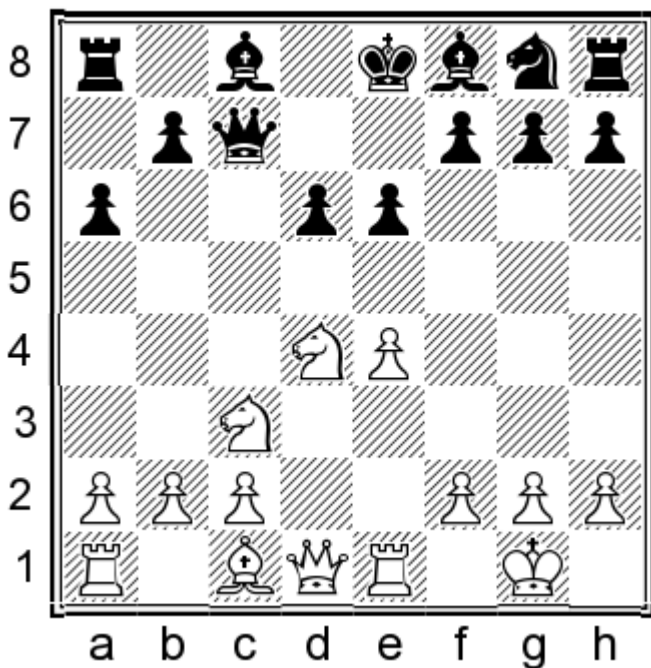


4.Nc3 e6 5.Bxc6! An important move. If Black manages to connect the knight with Nge7 White will have hard time constructing a good plan because it is Black who controls the d4-square.

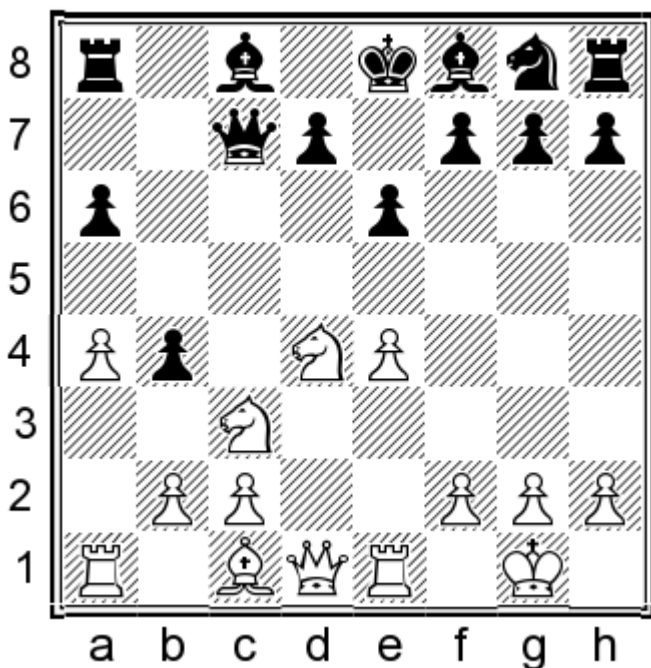
5.O-O Nge7 6.Re1 a6 7.Bf1 Ng6 ∞

5...bxc6!? A very interesting position. What is the difference here compared to 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6 4.Bc6 bc6? Of course, the black queen is on b6, which makes the knight on c3 rather awkward.

5...Qxc6 6.d4 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Qc7 (7...Qc4 8.Ndb5 ±) 8.O-O a6 9.Re1! I am partial to the black side here, since the position resembles my favourite opening - The Paulsen/Taimanov Sicilian. However, Black is lagging in development enabling White to conduct a direct attack through the centre, utilising the famous Sicilian Nd5 motif. This position could be used as a highly instructive attacking exercise for the white pieces. 9...d6

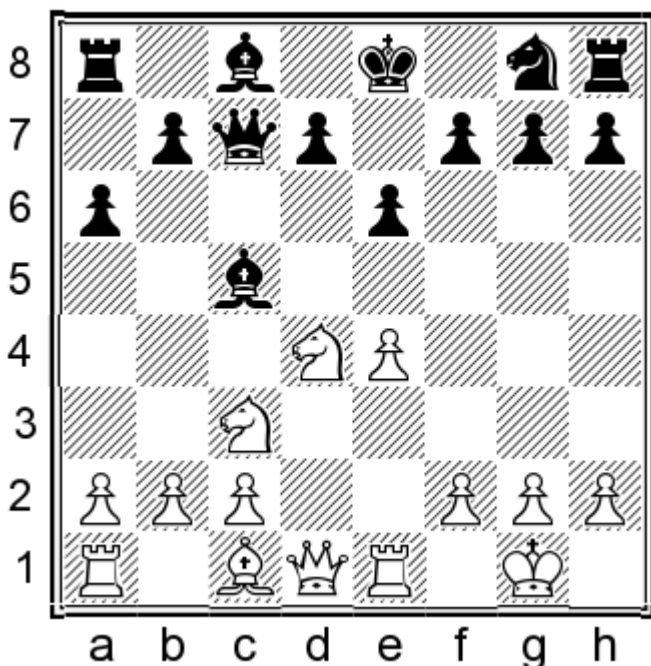


(9...b5 10.a4 b4



11.Nd5! exd5 12.exd5+ Ne7 (12...Be7 13.Qg4 g6 14.Bf4 d6 15.Qg3 + -;
12...Kd8 13.Bg5+ f6 (13...Nf6 14.Qf3 Qb6 15.Rad1 + -) 14.d6! Bxd6

15.Bf4 + -) 13.Bg5 f6 14.Bxf6! gxf6 15.Qh5+ Kd8 16.Rad1 + -; 9...Bc5



10.Nf5! Kf8 11.b4!! Bxb4 (11...Ba7 12.b5 + - Qxc3 13.Qd6+ Ke8 14.Ba3) 12.Rb1 Bc5 (12...Qxc3 13.Re3 + -) 13.Na4 d6 14.Nxc5 dxc5 15.Rb3 + - Threatening Rd3) 10.Bf4! e5 (10...Nf6 11.e5 dxe5 12.Bxe5 Qd8 13.Qf3 + -) 11.Nd5 Qd8 12.Nf5 exf4 13.Qd4 Ne7 (13...Nf6 14.Nb6 Be6 15.Nxa8 Qxa8 16.e5 dxe5 17.Qxe5 + -; 13...f6 14.Qc4 + -) 14.Nf6+ gxf6 15.Nxd6+ Qxd6 16.Qxd6 Ng6 17.Qxf6 ±

6.O-O

6.d3 Qc7

6...Qc7 7.Re1

7.d3 Ne7 8.Ng5 (8.h4 e5 9.h5 d6 10.Nh4 Rg8! 11.f4 exf4 12.Bxf4 g5 13.hxg6 Nxg6 ∞) 8...f6 9.Nh3 Ng6 10.f4 d6 11.Qh5 Qf7 12.b3 Be7 13.Bb2 O-O ∞

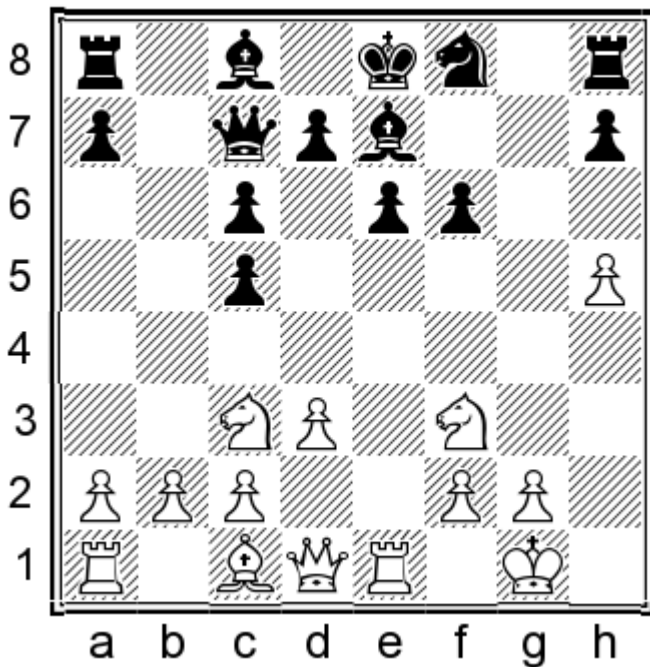
7...Ne7 8.e5

8.d4 cxd4 9.Qxd4 Ng6 ∞

8...Ng6 9.h4 f6 10.d3

10.d4 cxd4 11.Qxd4 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 fxe5 13.Rxe5 d5 14.Bf4 Bd6 15.Rae1 O-O ∞

10...Be7 11.exf6 gxf6 12.h5 Nf8 ∞



The position is unclear. Black is intending to gain control in the centre by Rg8, d5, e5.

A SURPRISING IDEA FOR WHITE IN THE FOUR KNIGHTS

4.a4 Overview

Priyadharshan Kannappan

• **Country:** India

• **Born:** 1993

• **Rating:** 2553

• **Peak rating:** 2554

• **Title:** Grandmaster since 2016



Magnus played his own tournament, the Magnus Carlsen Invitational in March 2021, not for the title but for the 3rd spot. He was beaten by the new World Championship Challenger Ian Nepomniachtchi in the semi-finals. Carlsen faced So in the match for the 3rd place. I watched this matchup with a lot of curiosity. As we all know, a wounded Magnus is much angrier and wants to get back to his winning ways. He sprang a big surprise in the 1st game by playing this 4.a4!? in the Four Knights, and scored an emphatic victory in just 23 moves!

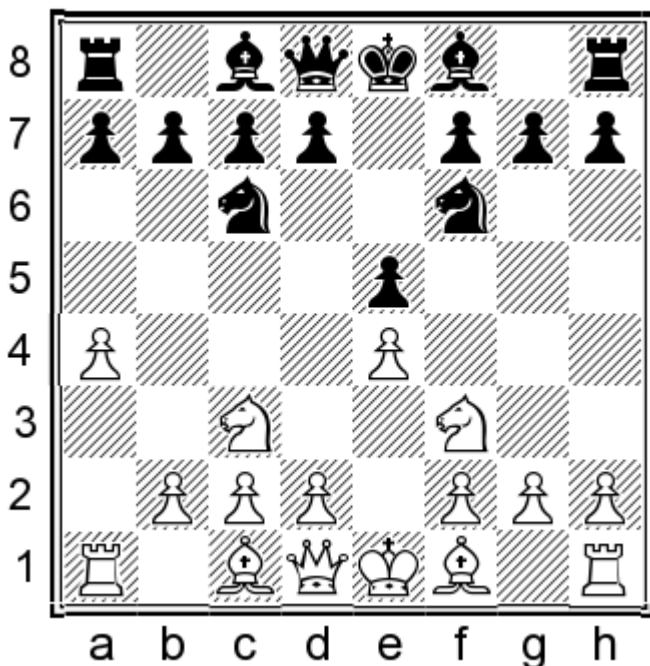
This game inspired me to look closer into this variation, as I am a big fan of the Four Knights system with White. I have tried 4.h3, 4.Be2 and have had a lot of analysis done on 4.a3. So, I was curious to check out what was this 4.a4!? and the result of that curiosity is this article!

Four Knights 4.a4 has only 25 games in my database, and I believe it was first played in 1994 by Van Woerden,HGC, in a correspondence game. 25 games in 28 years since it was played first shows how rare this idea is and how much room to explore untested positions there is.

In recent times this move was popularised by Dutch Grandmasters Jorden and Lucas van Foreest, who played it 5 times but had a disappointing 1 out of 5 points in those games.

It's now time to find out what this idea is all about!

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.a4



I will often be comparing the 4.a4 lines with Four Knights 4.Bb5 lines to see what are the differences between having the bishop on b5 in comparison to our topic.

Also, I will label the Four Knights 4.Bb5 as 4.Bb5 variation in this article.

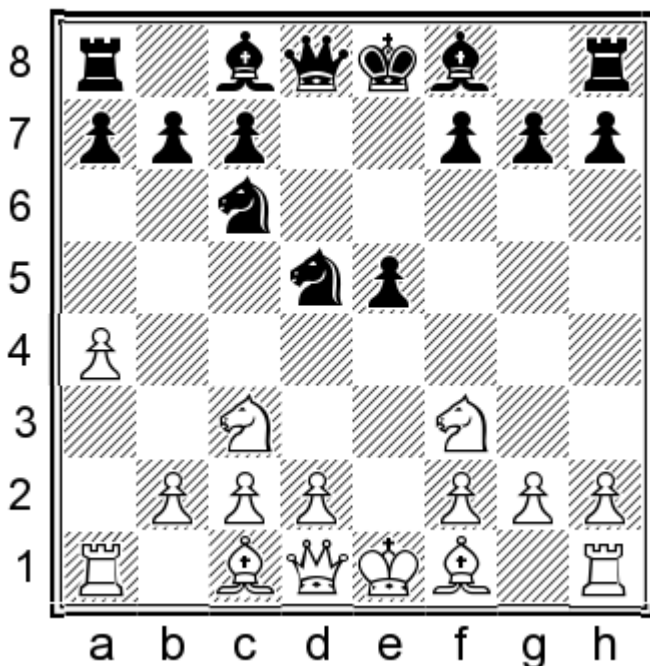
4...Bb4 I would call this the mainline as it was played a whopping 8 times!

4...g6?! This approach leads to a slightly passive position for Black, as he does not challenge the centre at all. 5.Bc4 Taking control of the d5-square, and now the a4 move also makes sense, as the a2-square is now a hiding place for the bishop if Black tries to attack it in future with moves like ...Na5.

5...Bg7 (5...Nxe4?? 6.Nxe4 d5 7.Bxd5 +-) 6.d3 d6 7.h3 h6 8.Be3 Be6 (8...Nb4? 9.Qd2 c5 10.g4² Antipov,Mikhail Al 2607 - Ponkratov,Pavel 2625, Russia 2020) 9.Bxe6 fxe6 10.O-O² Dubov,Daniil 2710 - Kamsky,Gata 2665, chess.com (Internet-bltz) 2021 (10.a5!?, 10.Ne2!?)

4...a6 5.d4 Bb4 (5...exd4!? 6.Nxd4 Bb4 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 - look at the notes of Van Foreest,Lucas - Anton Guijarro,David) 6.Nxe5 Nxe4 7.Qf3 Nf6 8.Be3 O-O 9.Bd3 Re8∞ Van Foreest,Lucas 2531 - Anton Guijarro,David 2688, Deutschland 2020

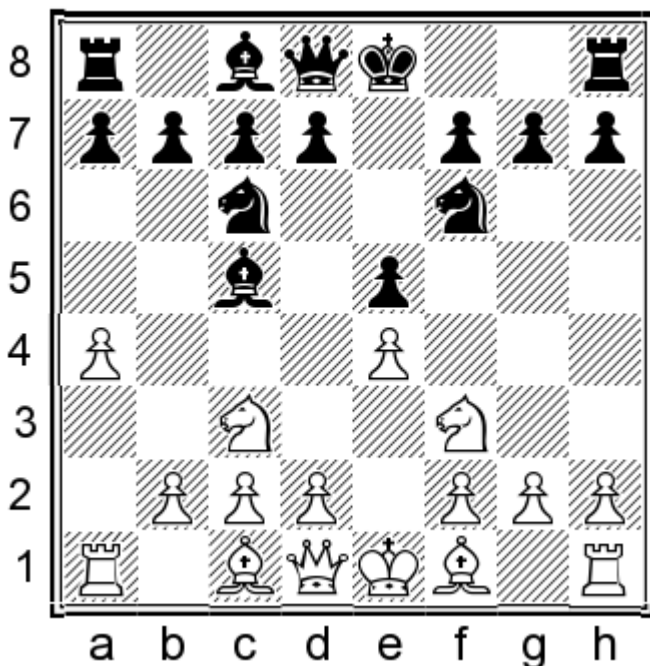
4...d5 5.exd5 (5.Bb5 Nxe4 6.Nxe5 Qf6 7.Nf3 Be6∞ Van Foreest, Jorden 2629 - Smeets,Jan 2608, Nederland (ch-rapid) 2017) 5...Nxd5



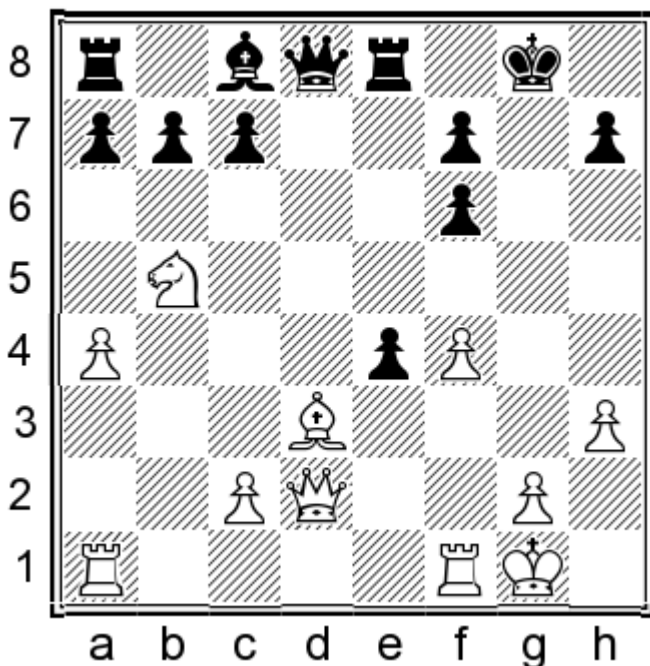
6.Bb5!? A new move. (This line is only for those who are chilled even at 100 degrees Fahrenheit! 6.Nxe5!? Something new. 6...Nxe5 7.Qe2 f6 8.d4 ∞ - look at the Van Foreest,Jorden - Smeets,Jan game for additional notes.) 6...Nxc3 7.bxc3 Bd6 - look at the Van Foreest,Jorden - Smeets,Jan game for additional notes.

4...Be7 Solid but defensive move. 5.Bb5 (5.d4!? exd4 6.Nxd4 O-O (6...Bb4 We have got the Four Knights with White gaining a free a4 move. 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 d5 9.exd5 cxd5 10.O-O O-O I am sure that having the extra a4 move is not going to hurt White, so this is definitely at least no better than playing this position with the pawn on a2. 11.Bg5 (11.h3 c6 12.Qf3 ∞) 11...c6 12.Qf3 ∞) 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.e5 Ne8 (8...Nd5 9.Nxd5 cxd5 10.Qxd5 c6 11.Qd4²) 9.Bd3 f6! 10.Bf4 fxe5 11.Bxe5 Nf6 12.O-O d5 ∞) 5...d6 6.d4 exd4 7.Nxd4 Bd7 8.O-O O-O 9.Re1 Re8 10.h3 h6 11.Bf4 Bf8 (Van Foreest,Jorden 2629 - Jumabayev,Rinat 2612, Riyadh (rapid) 2017) 12.Nxc6²;

4...Bc5



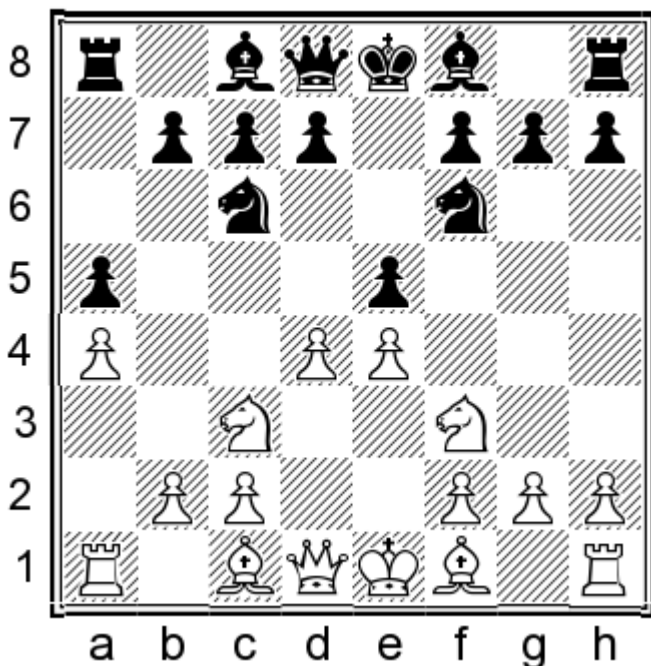
5.Nxe5! This is one of standard reactions in the 4.Bb5 variation. 5...Nxe5 (5...Bxf2+? 6.Kxf2 Nxe5 7.d4 Neg4+ 8.Kg1 +- White's pawns will continuously kick the black knights away.) 6.d4 Bd6 (6...Bxd4? 7.Qxd4 d6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 +- Black cannot get out of this h4-d8 pin easily.) 7.dxe5! (7.f4 This is how you proceed in the 4.Bb5 variation, but this approach is not the best here. 7...Ng6 8.e5 Bb4 9.exf6 Qxf6 10.Be2 d5 11.O-O c6 12.f5 Ne7 13.g4 g5!∞) 7...Bxe5 8.Bd3 The f1-bishop is being developed and allows White to directly play 8.Bd3. If we had played the 4.Bb5 variation, the bishop would have wasted a tempo. 8...O-O 9.O-O Re8 10.Nb5! Taking away the d6 and d4 squares from the black bishop on e5. 10...d5 (10...c6? 11.f4 White starts a series of forcing moves. 11...cxb5 12.fxe5 Rxe5 13.Bf4 Re6 14.e5 Nd5 15.Bxh7+ Kxh7 16.Qxd5 +- Black's queenside pieces are completely undeveloped.; 10...a6?! White should react similarly as in the 10...c6 line. 11.f4 axb5 12.fxe5 Rxe5 Everything was the same as the 10...c6 line, but here White needs a different approach to keep the pressure on the black pieces. 13.b3! Defending a4 and also threatening to play bishop to b2. 13...Nxe4 14.Bb2 Re6 15.Bxe4 Rxe4 16.Rxf7! Kxf7 17.Qf3+ Kg8 18.Qxe4 ± White has an advantage thanks to lead in development and the weak black king.) 11.f4 Bg4 12.Qd2 Bd6 (12...Bxb2!? 13.Bxb2 dxe4 14.h3! Bc8 15.Bxf6 gxf6



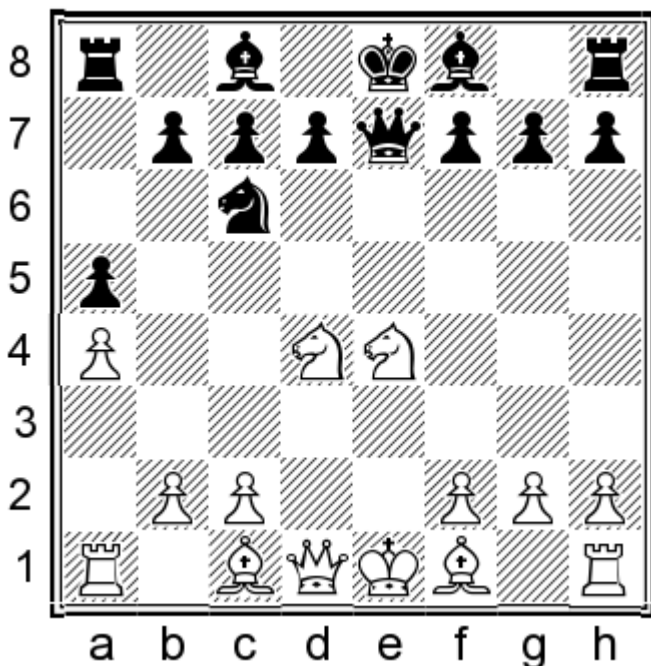
16.Qc3! c6 17.Rad1! I often say this to my students: "A player can capture only one piece in a move, so when two of your pieces are hanging, you can consider ignoring the threat and play something else!" 17...exd3 18.Rxd3 +- (Black's king is in big trouble on the g-file.) 13.e5 Bc5+ 14.Kh1 Ne4;

4...d6 Solid but passive. 5.d4 exd4 6.Nxd4 Be7 7.Bc4 O-O 8.O-O Re8 9.h3² Look at the notes in the Van Woerden,HGC - Rasmussen,P, game.

4...a5!? What if Black is in no mood to break the symmetry! 5.Bb5 A new move. (5.d4

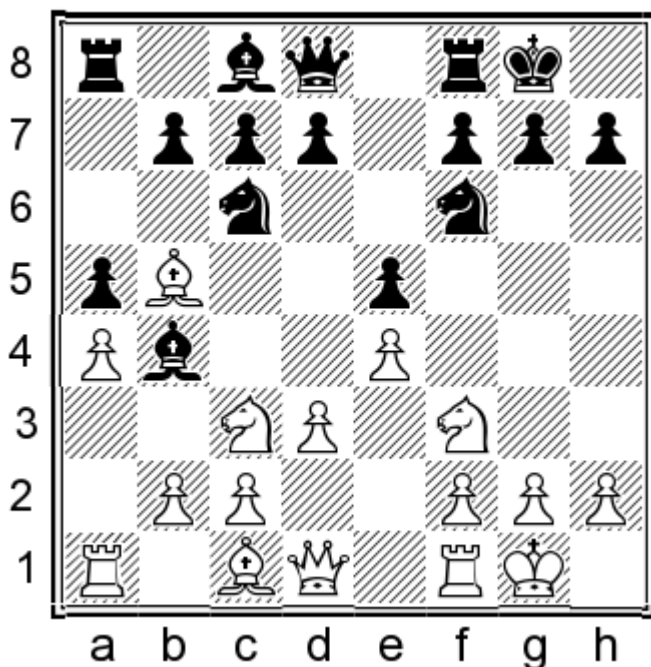


It's a novelty but not a challenging one, as Black gets to comfortable positions in different lines. 5...Bb4!? Without the inclusion of a4-a5, this is not a popular continuation as White has to force he play to get better positions, but here the a5-pawn defends the bishop on b4, and that helps Black to seize the initiative. (5...exd4 6.Nxd4 Bb4 (6...Nxe4?? This line works without the inclusion of a4 and a5, but is a terrible blunder! Have you spotted why? 7.Nxe4 Qe7



8.Ra3!! The move that's possible now! 8...d5 9.Nb5 dxe4 10.Bf4 Ne5 11.Qh5 c6 12.Re3 cxb5 13.Rxe4 +-; 6...Bc5!? 7.Nb3 (7.Be3 Bb4 8.Bd3 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Bd2 Qe7+ 12.Qe2 = Looks pretty drawish.) 7...Bb4 8.Bd3 d5 9.O-O dxe4 (9...Bxc3? 10.exd5! The key intermediate move that gives an edge for White. 10...Qxd5 11.bxc3 O-O 12.Re1²) 10.Nxe4 O-O (10...Nxe4 11.Bxe4 Qxd1 12.Rxd1 O-O 13.Bf4 ±) 11.Qf3 ∞ White's position is a tad more comfortable than Black's, as White can play c3 and kick the b4-bishop.) 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 d5 9.exd5 cxd5 10.O-O O-O 11.h3 c6 ∞ The inclusion of a4-a5 favours Black as many times Black voluntarily plays ...a5 to support the bishop on b4 in the normal Four Knights 4.d4 lines.) 6.d5 (6.dxe5? Nxe4 7.Bd2 Bxc3 8.Bxc3 Nxc3 9.bxc3 O-O³; 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.dxe5 Nxe4 8.Qf3 d5³) 6...Ne7 7.Bd3 (7.Nxe5 Nxe4 8.Qd4 Nxc3 9.bxc3 Nf5 10.Qc4 Qe7 (10...Nd6 11.Qb3 (11.Qd4 Nf5 A funny draw by repetition.) 11...Qe7 12.cxb4 Qxe5+ 13.Qe3 Qxe3+ 14.Bxe3 axb4 15.Bc5 Ra5 16.Bxb4 Rxd5 © I would take Black, but I see that White can shift the position to the opposite-coloured bishops ending and secure a draw in the majority of situations.) 11.Bf4 (11.cxb4 Qxe5+ 12.Qe2 Qxe2+ 13.Bxe2 axb4 =) 11...d6 12.cxb4 dxe5 13.Bd2 ∞) 7...d6 8.O-O O-O 9.Na2 Bc5³ Black's chances are preferable as the ...f5-pawn break could put a lot of pressure on the white side.; 5.Bc4 Bc5 6.d3 d6 7.Be3 Bxe3 8.fxe3 Be6 9.Bxe6 fxe6 = White may have a slight pull due to the first move advantage.) 5...Bb4 (5...Bd6 6.d3 O-O In the Four Knights 4.Bb5, without the inclusion of a4-a5, White would often

play a3 to create a safe shelter for the b5 bishop, so from that perspective, it's good for White to have the safe square on a2 now. The drawback is that by playing a4 we are allowing Black to play ... Nb4 and take away the safe bishop square on a2, and also possibly support a quick ...d5 pawn break in the centre by Black. 7.Ne2 (7.O-O h6 8.Ne2 Re8 9.Ng3 Bf8 10.Re1 ∞; 7.Bg5 Nb4 8.Bc4 c6 9.Bb3 Bc7 10.O-O h6 11.Bh4 Re8 ∞) 7...Re8 8.Ng3 Bf8 9.O-O h6 10.Re1 ∞ A standard position that we get out of the Four Knights system, but the inclusion of a4-a5 gives a bit more stability to White's pieces, and I would take White in this position, as there are lot of plans on how to take the game forward for White.) 6.O-O O-O 7.d3



7...d6 (7...Bxc3?! 8.bxc3 d6 9.Re1 Na7 10.Bc4²; 7...Nd4!? 8.Nxd4 exd4 9.Ne2 d5 10.exd5 Qxd5 11.Bc4 Qh5 12.Nxd4? Bg4 13.f3 Bd6! 14.g3 (14.h3? Bxh3 15.gxh3 Qe5 16.f4 Qxd4+³ The white king is in big trouble.) 14...Bh3 15.Re1 Rfe8→ It reminds me of the positions that we get in the Ruy Lopez Marshall.) 8.Ne2 In the mainline, without the inclusion of a4-a5, Black would go ...Ne7 in this position, as c3 could be met with ...Ba5, but here the unavailability of the a5-square poses Black some new problems to solve. 8...Ne7 9.c3 Bc5 (9...c6? You can't copy things here: 10.cxb4 cxb5 11.axb5 ±) 10.d4 Bb6 11.Ng3 exd4 12.cxd4 d5 13.e5 Ne4 14.Re1 Nxc3 15.hxc3² The white rook on a1 can be lifted via a3, and the black bishop on c6 has to find something useful to do.

5.Bd3 O-O

5...d6 transposes to the main line.

6.O-O Re8 This is the safest option for Black.

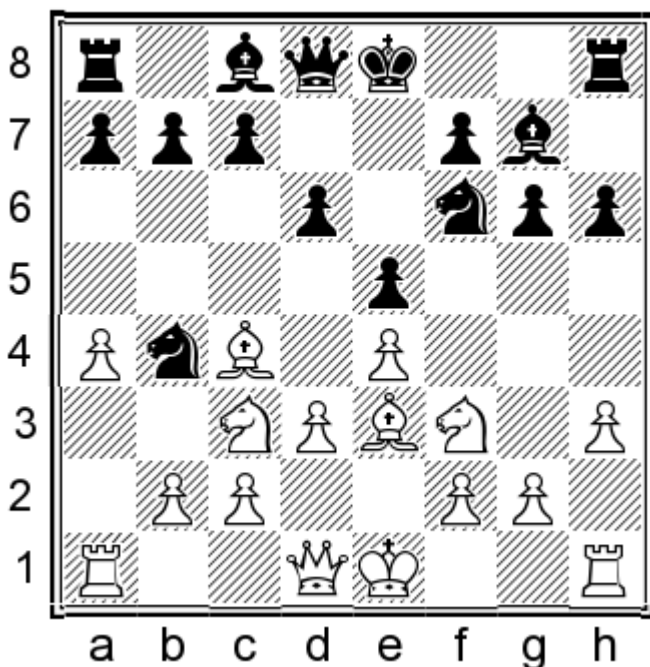
6...d6 7.Nd5 Bc5 8.c3 a5 9.Bc2 = Carlsen,Magnus 2847 - So,Wesley 2770,
chess24.com (Internet-m1/1-rapid) 2021

7.Re1 Bc5 8.Nd5 = Van Foreest,Lucas 2531 - Fridman,Daniel 2635,
Belgique 2020

C55

Antipov, Mikhail Al (2607) - Ponkratov, Pavel (2625)
Russia, 2020

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 h6 5.h3 d6 6.a4 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.Be3
Nb4?**



It is a strange idea by Black to play ...c5 and stop White from breaking in the centre. Black loses some valuable tempi in the process.

In the next game we will discuss 8...Be6

9.Qd2! Keeping an eye on b4 and h6!

9...c5 10.g4!? A double edged move.

10.Ne2 with the idea to play c3 and then follow up with d4- or b4-pawn breaks 10...Nc6 11.c3 Na5 12.Ba2 c4 13.Ng3 Be6 14.O-O Qc7 15.Rfd1 ± Black lags in development.

10...b6?

10...Ng8!? Prophylactically manoeuvring the knight to safer squares.

11.g5 hxcg5 12.Nxcg5 White has a great grip on the light squares thanks to the c4-bishop.

12...O-O?? This is equivalent to walking into a burning building.

12...d5 13.exd5 Nbx d5 14.Nxd5 Nxd5 15.Qe2! ± with the idea of queen to f3 and Black is in trouble.

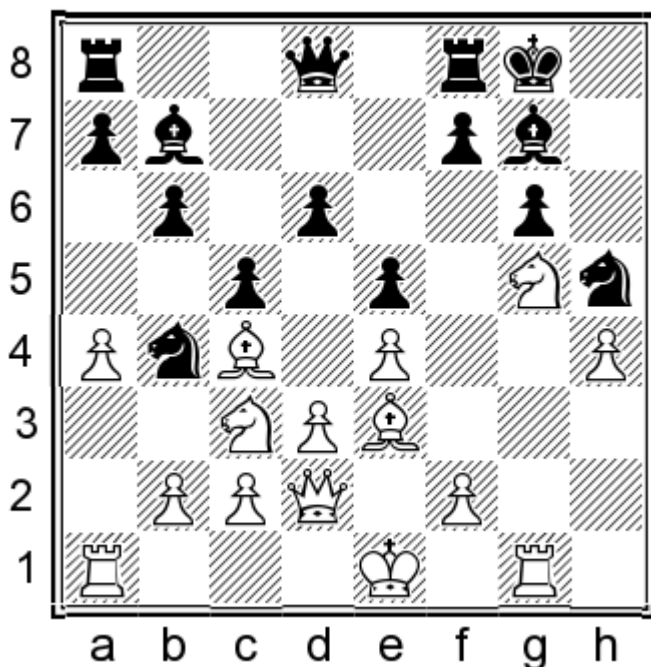
13.h4

13.O-O-O Completing development would have been a better option. 13...d5 14.exd5 Nbx d5 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Ne4 +-

13...Nh5?

13...Bg4 When you are defending against attack, try to bring as many pieces as possible to safeguard your king. 14.Ne2 d5 15.exd5 Nbx d5 16.f3 Bh5 17.Ng3²

14.Rg1 Bb7



15.Nxf7?!

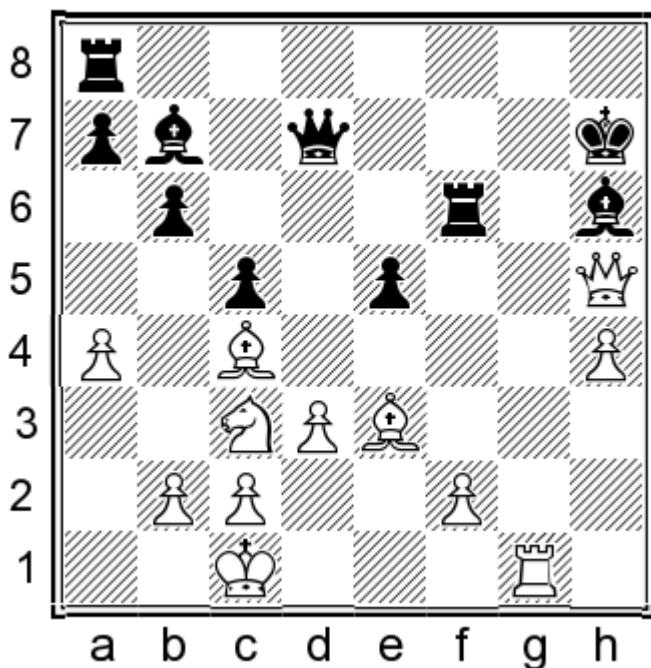
15.Qe2 d5 16.exd5 Nxd5 17.Qf3 +-

15...Rxf7 16.Rxg6 d5 17.exd5 Nxd5

¹17...Bxd5 18.Nxd5 Nxd5 19.O-O-O→

18.O-O-O Kh7 19.Rdg1 Black is lost, so it was a surprise that Ponkratov put up a fight for another 37. moves.

19...Qd7 20.Qd1 Ndf6 21.R6g5 Bh6 22.Rxh5 Nxh5 23.Qxh5 Rf6 My *Stockfish* claims checkmate in 8! Can you spot it?



24.Nd5? I give the knight move a question mark, not because it's a bad move, but just because there was a checkmate!

24.Bxh6 Simple forcing move. 24...Rxh6 25.Qg5! threatening Bg8. 25...Rd6 26.Bg8+ Rxg8 27.Qxg8+ Kh6 28.Rg5 Qe7 29.Qh8+ Qh7 30.Qf8+ Qg7 31.Qxg7#

24...Bxd5 25.Bxd5 Qxd5 26.Bxh6 Qf3 27.Rg7+ Kh8 28.Rg4 Qxg4 29.Qxg4 Rxh6 Black seems to have weathered the storm and have got two rooks for a queen and a pawn, but the problem for Black is that his rooks have no coordination, and we can say, "United we stand, Divided we Fall".

30.Qg5 Re6 31.Qh5+ Kg7 32.Qg4+ Rg6 33.Qd7+ I am not commenting the rest of the game, as there are multiple winning ideas for White.

33...Kh6 34.Qe7 a5 35.Kd2 Rag8 36.Qxe5 Rf8 37.f4 Rg2+ 38.Kc3 Rg6
 39.Kd2 Rg2+ 40.Ke3 Rfg8 41.f5 R8g3+ 42.Kf4 Rg8 43.Kf3 Rg1 44.f6 Rf1+
 45.Ke2 Rgg1 46.Qb8 Re1+ 47.Kd2 Kg6 48.Qf8 Ref1 49.Qg7+ Kh5
 50.Qh7+ Kg4 51.h5 Rf2+ 52.Kc3 Rc1 53.Kb3 Rxf6 54.h6 Kh5 55.Qe4
 Rxb6 56.Qf5+ 1-0

C55

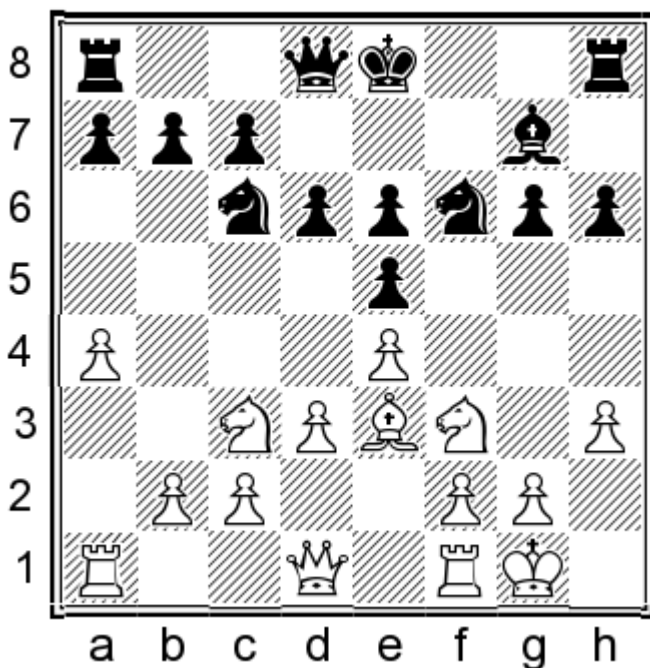
Dubov, Daniil (2710) - Kamsky, Gata (2665)

chess.com (Internet-blitz), 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 It is interesting to see the various move orders that lead to our topic subject.

3...Nf6 4.d3 h6 5.a4 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.h3 Bg7 8.Be3 Be6 9.Bxe6 fxe6 We have got to the point of our discussion.

10.O-O



10.a5!? Making a good use of the a4 move by gaining more space on the queenside and also stopping Black from playing ...a5. This move would most likely transpose to the game continuation.

10.Ne2!? O-O 11.c3 d5 12.Qc2 Black's pawn structure has long term structural weaknesses. 12...a5! Preventing White from the queenside expansion. 13.O-O Qd6 14.Rad1² White will soon play the d4-pawn break.

10...O-O?!

10...Qd7! Black should castle long and attack White's king. 11.a5 a6 12.Ne2 g5 13.c4 g4 14.hxg4 Nxg4 15.Bd2 ∞ with a sharp position that requires a lot of practical tests.

11.a5! a6 Black has helped White in fixing the b7-pawn as a target.

12.Ne2! d5 13.Ng3

13.exd5 exd5 14.d4 e4 (14...exd4 15.Nexd4 Qd6 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.Qd3 Ne4 18.Rad1) 15.Ne5 g5 16.c4 Qd6

13...Qd6 14.c3 d4 15.cxd4 exd4 16.Bd2 The open c-file gives White massive leverage to operate, and you see similar positions that arise from 1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3. g3 d5 where White generates a whole lot of activity on the c-file.

16...Nd7 17.Rc1! Starting some activity on the c-file.

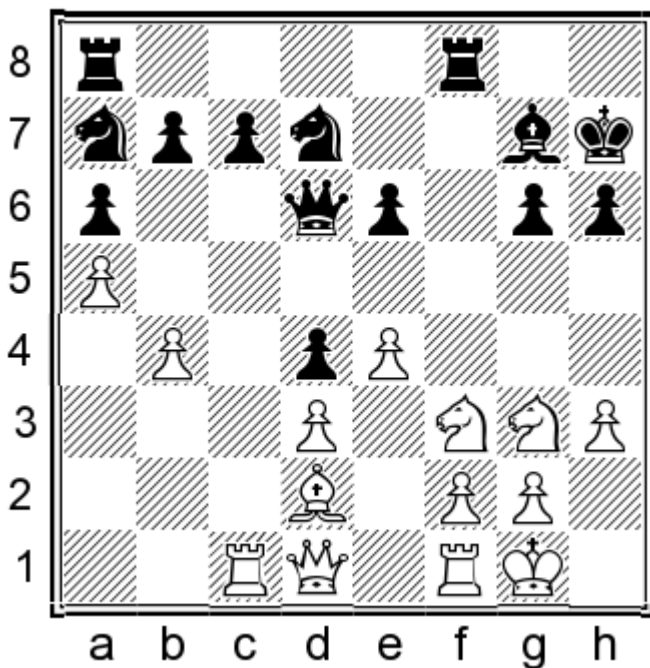
17...Kh7 18.b4?! Logical follow-up, but Black is just in time to create some play on the kingside.

18.Qb3 Nc5 (18...Rxf3? 19.gxf3 Nde5 20.Kg2 g5 21.f4 + -) 19.Qc4 Nd7 20.Ne1² (20.b4?? Rxf3! 21.gxf3 Nde5 22.Qc2 Nxf3+ 23.Kg2 Rf8- +)

18...Na7?

18...Nxb4?? 19.Bxb4 Qxb4 20.Rxc7 Rf7 21.Qb1 + -;

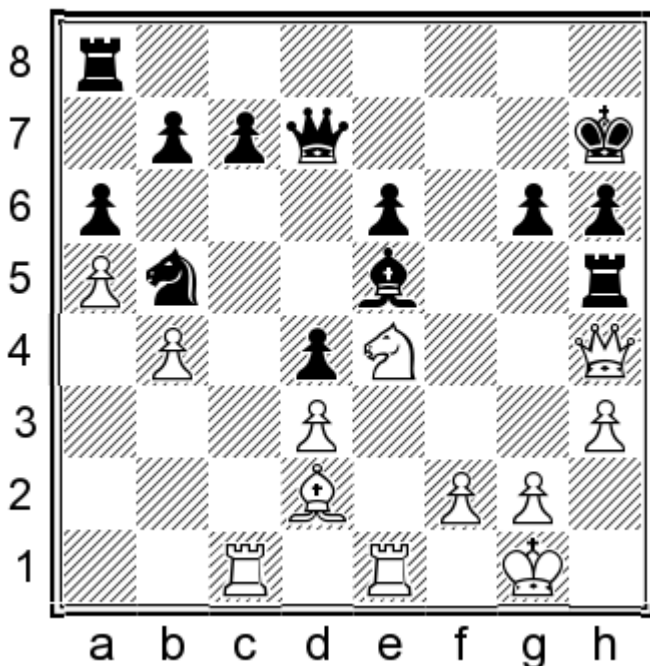
18...Rf7 19.Qb3 Raf8 Black is shifting his pieces to the kingside for some action there. 20.Nh2 Nd8 21.b5 axb5 22.Qxb5 c5 ∞



19.e5! Exceptional positional understanding by Dubov in a blitz game! He sacrifices a pawn to secure an outpost for the knight.

19...Nxe5 20.Nxe5 Bxe5 21.Ne4 Qd7 Weaknesses everywhere in Black's position!

22.Re1 Nb5 23.Qg4 Rf5 24.Qh4 Rh5 Can you spot a brilliant tactical shot played by Dubov?



25.Qf6!! Rd8 26.g4

26.g4 Rxh3 27.Qxe5 +-

1-0

C47

Van Foreest, Lucas (2531) - Anton Guijarro, David (2688)
Deutschland, 2020

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.a4 a6 5.d4 Bb4

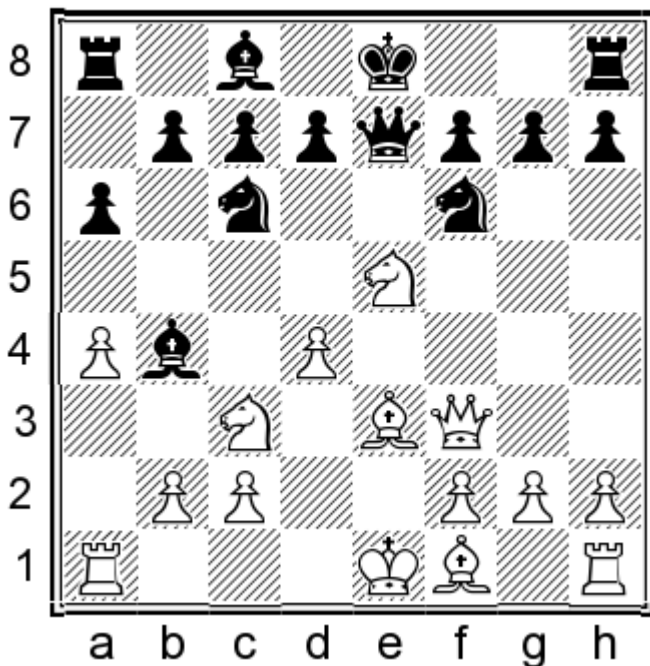
5...exd4 A new move. 6.Nxd4 Bb4 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 d5 9.exd5 O-O 10.O-O cxd5 (10...Bg4 11.f3 Bh5 12.Bg5 (12.dxc6 Qd4+ 13.Kh1 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Qxc3 15.Ra3! This was only possible because of the inclusion of a4 and a6, and I think this should give some additional chances for White to fight for an edge.) 12...Bxc3 13.bxc3 cxd5 14.a5 Bg6 The weak pawn on a6 gives White some chances to fight for advantage.) 11.h3 c6 12.Qf3 ∞ I like White's position here as a4 is a much more helpful move than a6 in the regular Four Knights 4.d4 line.

6.Nxe5 Nxe4 7.Qf3 Nf6 8.Be3 Now we have a reversed position of Jorden van Foreest - Jan Smeets game from 2017 with the significant difference to that game of the older van Foreest brother - the bishop on the b-file was protected by the pawn, but here it's not. The opponent had made an extra

move with the a-pawn, but the evaluation doesn't change.

8...O-O

8...Qe7?!

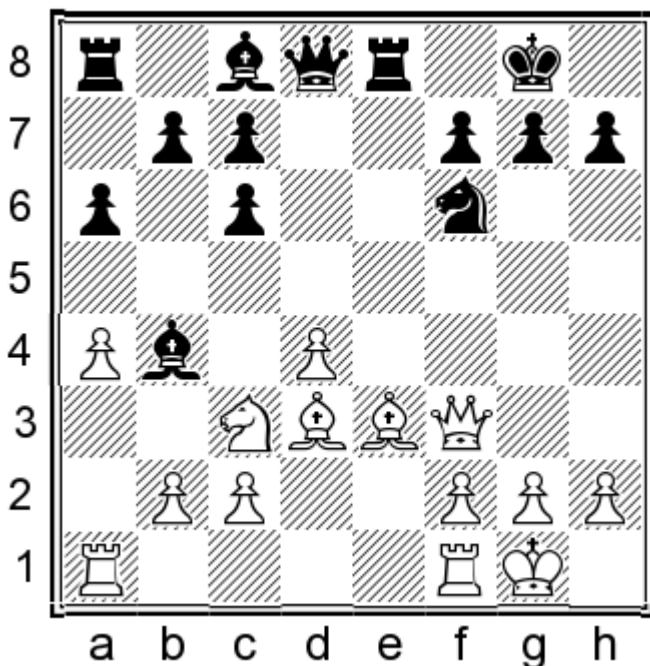


9.Bd3! Sacrificing the pawn for activity. 9...Nxe5 10.dxe5 Qxe5 11.O-O Bxc3 12.bxc3 Qxc3?? I am copying my analysis from Jorden's game against Smeets. 13.Qf4 +-

9.Bd3 Re8 10.Nxc6?!

10.O-O Nxe5 11.dxe5 Rxe5 12.Bd4 Re6 13.Bf5 Bxc3 14.Bxc3 Rc6 15.Rfe1 → Black needs to be careful as White's major pieces are aiming at Black's king.

10...dxc6 11.O-O



11...Bg4! Black comes up with a nice positional plan.

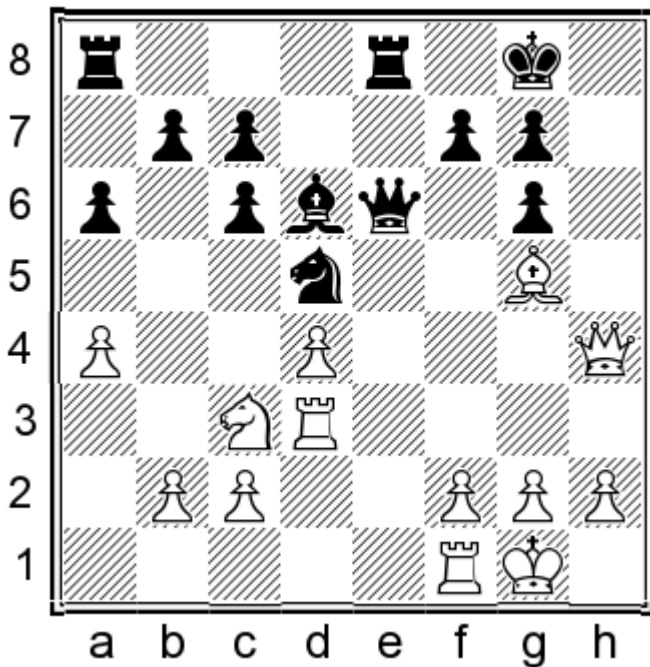
12.Qg3 Bh5! 13.Qh4 Bg6 14.Bxg6 hxg6 As the light-squared bishops are exchanged White is now left with a bad bishop on e3.

15.Na2? Passive play.

15.Bg5 Bxc3 16.bxc3 Qd6 17.Bxf6 gxf6³

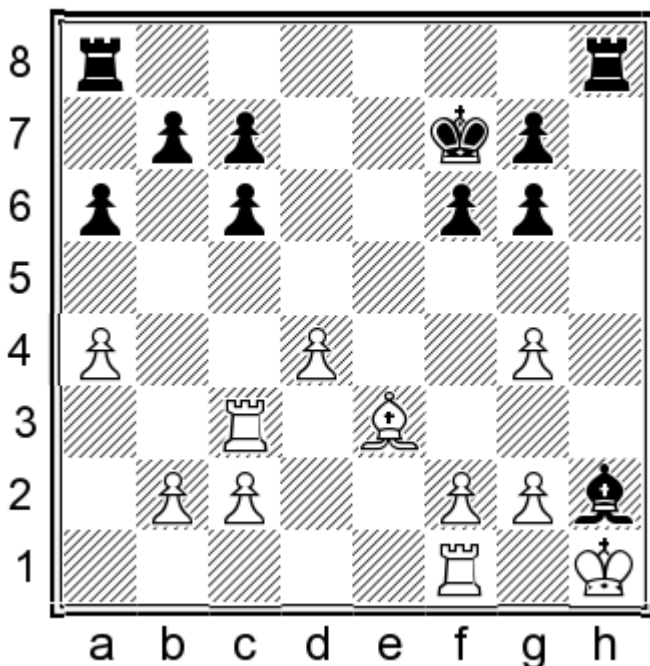
15...Bd6 16.Bg5 Qe7 17.Nc3 Qe6 18.Rad1 Nd5! 19.Rd3

19.Nxd5 Qxd5 White's queenside pawns are undefended and ready to be attacked by the black queen.



19...f6! Creating an escape square for the king on f7 and also getting ready to use the h-file to attack the white king.

20.Be3 Kf7! 21.h3 Nxc3 22.Rxc3 Rh8 23.Qg4 Qxg4 24.hxg4 Bh2+ 25.Kh1



25...Rh4! The king is trapped.

26.Rb3 It looks like Anton had a lot of fun from here on, as he just repeated a few positions twice before playing a new move!

26...Bd6+ 27.Kg1 Bh2+ 28.Kh1 b5 29.axb5 Bg3+ 30.Kg1 Bh2+ 31.Kh1 axb5 32.Rc3 Bg3+ 33.Kg1 Bh2+ 34.Kh1 c5 35.g3 Bxg3+ 36.Kg2 Bd6 37.dxc5 Be5 38.Rb3 Rxg4+ 39.Kf3 Rc4 40.Rxb5 Rxc2 41.Rb1 Ke6 42.Rb4 g5 43.Ke4 Ra2 44.b3 f5+ 0-1

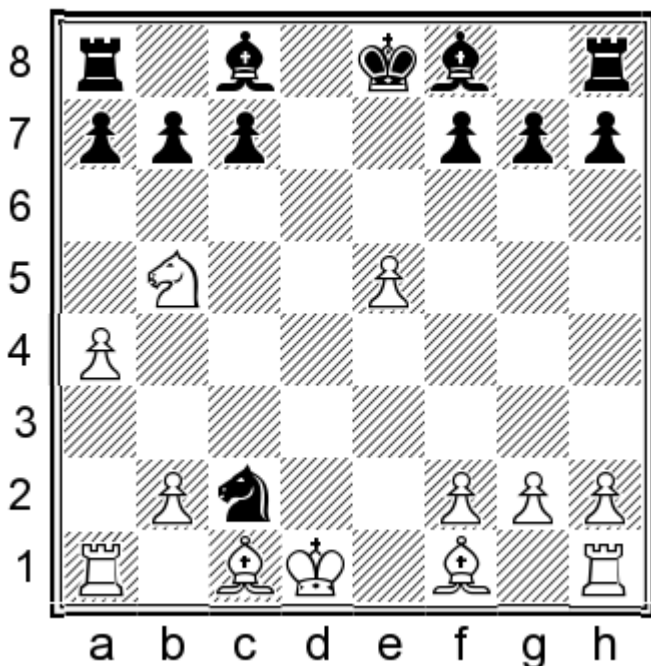
C47

Van Foreest, Jorden (2629) - Smeets, Jan (2608)
Nederland (ch-rapid), 2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.a4 d5 5.Bb5!?

Alternatively 5.exd5 is better. 5...Nxd5 6.Bb5 A new move. (6.Nxe5!? A new move. 6...Nxe5 7.Qe2 Qd6 (7...f6 8.d4 Bb4 9.Bd2 O-O 10.dxe5 Bxc3 11.bxc3 Re8 12.O-O-O Rxe5 13.Qf3 ∞ White can play this position, but I would be scared to play with the white pieces!) 8.d4 (8.Nxd5 Qxd5 9.f4 Bf5 10.Qxe5+ Qxe5+ 11.fxe5 Bxc2 12.Bc4 O-O-O³ Black has active bishops and better pawn structure giving him a slightly better position overall.) 8...Nb4 9.Nb5 Qe7 (9...Qc6!? This line could lead to a super sharp series of only moves by both sides reaching the 0.00 evaluation. 10.Qxe5+ Be7 11.Qxg7 Bf6

12.Nxc7+TM Kd8TM 13.Bg5TM Bxg5TM 14.Qxg5+ f6 15.Qa5TM Nxc2+ 16.Kd2TM
 Nxa1 17.Nxa8+ b6 18.Qc3TM Qxa8) 10.Qxe5 Qxe5+ 11.dxe5 Nxc2+ 12.Kd1



12...Bf5! Getting the bishop out first, so that Black can play ...Kd7. 13.Nxc7+ Kd7 14.Nxa8 Nxa1 15.Be3 Now the question is the white knight can escape from a8. Black's knight does not face any issues as we played a4 on move 4, and now there is no pawn to control the b3-square. 15...b6 16.e6+ Clearing the g3-b8 diagonal to help the knight get out with the support of the bishop. 16...fxe6 17.Bb5+ Kc8 18.Bf4 Bc5 19.Nc7 Nb3 20.Ba6+ Kd7 21.Bc4 Nd4∞ I would take Black in this position.) 6...Nxc3 7.bxc3 Bd6 8.d4 exd4 9.O-O O-O (9...dxc3?! 10.Bg5 Qd7 11.Re1+ Kf8 12.Qd3f) 10.cxd4 h6 11.c3 Qf6∞ This is the Reversed Four Knights position with an additional tempo on a4, and the original version would be White playing 4.d4 in the Four Knights. In the original line, Black doesn't face any issues, so here we have the same position with White to play with a4 added in, and that can only be something positive for White as it defends the bishop on b5 and could also allow White to activate the a1 rook via a2 to e2 if needed.

5...Nxe4

5...d4 6.Ne2 Bd6 7.d3 O-O 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.O-O∞ I like this kind of positions for White, as it's rich in strategic concepts and less in tactical ideas.

6.Nxe5 Qf6 Active play by Black.

7.Nf3 Be6 8.Qe2

The most logical move would lead to 8.O-O Bd6 9.Re1 O-O 10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.Rxe4 Bd5 12.Re3 Bf4 13.Rc3 Ne5f White will struggle to complete development.

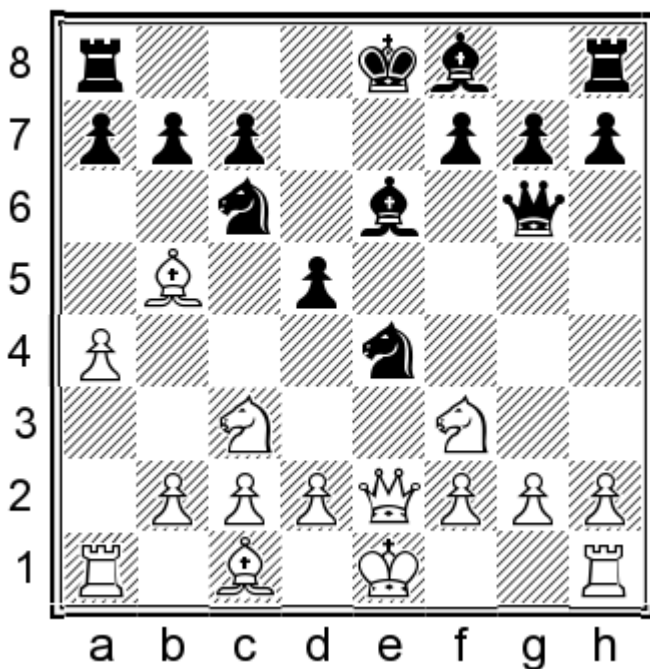
8...Qg6

18...Bd6 9.Nxe4 dxe4 10.Bxc6+ bxc6 11.Qxe4 O-O 12.O-O (12.Qxc6?? The king is much more valuable than two pawns! 12...Bf5- +) 12...Bd5 13.Qg4 Rfe8© I like Black's position due to active play and lead in development.

9.Nh4

9.O-O This leads to sharp positions. 9...Bd6 10.Nd4 O-O (10...Bg4!? 11.f3 Bc5 Pins everywhere! 12.Nxe4 Qxe4!? 13.Qxe4+ dxe4 14.Kh1 Bxd4 15.fxg4∞) 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bxc6 Bg4 13.Qe3 (13.f3?? Bc5+ 14.Kh1 Ng3+ 15.hxg3 Qh5#) 13...Bxh2+ 14.Kxh2 Qxc6∞

9...Qf6 10.Nf3 Qg6



11.Nxe4? Jorden, true to his style, refuses to repeat and take a draw, but ends up playing a sub-par move.

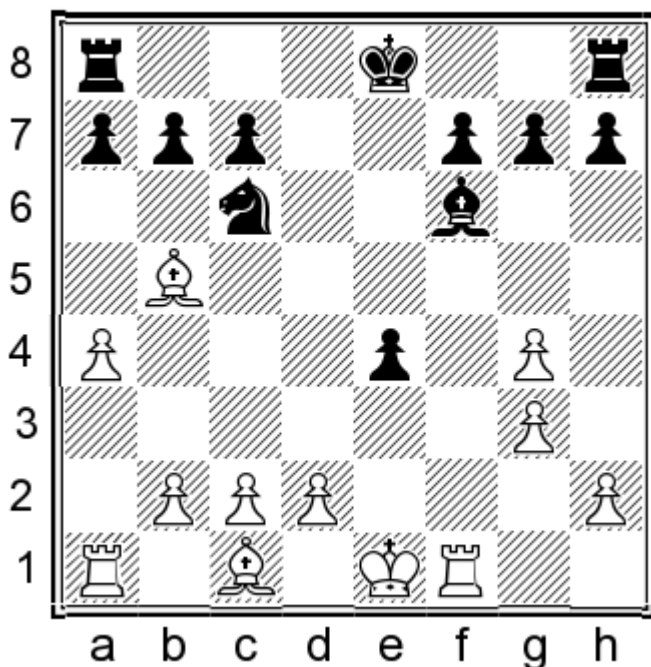
11...dxe4 12.Nh4 Qg4 13.Qxg4 Bxg4 14.f3! The e4-pawn was controlling too much of the centre, and it had to be swapped.

14...Be7?!

14...exf3 15.Nxf3 O-O-O 16.c3 Bd6 17.d4 Na5³ Safe king, active pieces, and a lot of weaknesses in the white camp give Black an edge in this position.

15.fxg4 Bxh4+ 16.g3 Bf6 17.Rf1

17.O-O O-O-O∞



17...h5! Exploiting the drawback of White's Rook to f1, as the h2 pawn is now unprotected.

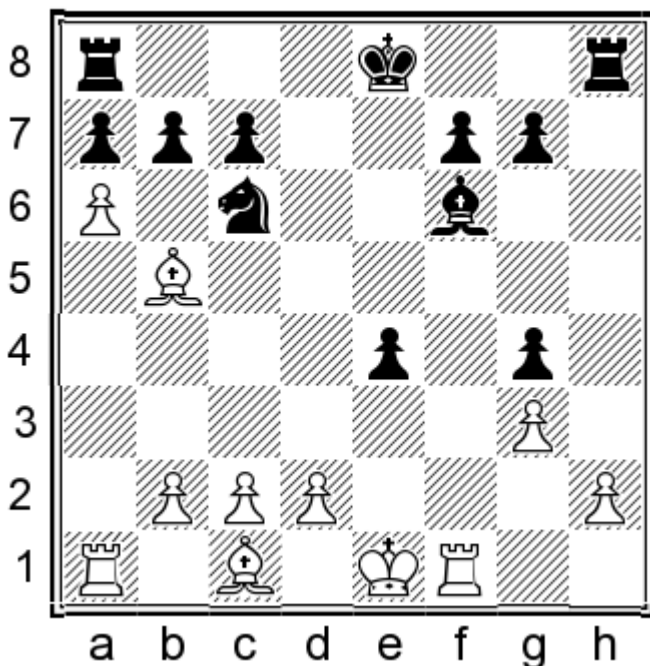
17...O-O-O 18.g5 Bxg5 19.Bxc6 bxc6 20.Rxf7 =

18.a5? White missed the fact that Black can castle long and ends up blundering a pawn.

18.gxh5 Rxh5 19.h4 O-O-O 20.Bxc6 bxc6 21.Ra3∞ A funny position with weird pawn structures and rook placements, but I am sure you know the evaluation of these positions by our friend *Stockfish*, and that's 0.00!

18...hxg4 19.a6?

19.Ra4 O-O-O 20.Bxc6 bxc6 21.Rxe4 Rxh2 22.Rxg4 Rd5μ



19...O-O-O!- + Black has huge advantage in this position.

20.axb7+ Kxb7 21.Bxc6+ Kxc6 White has no good way to develop his c1-bishop, and combined with a weak king this position is a straightforward win for Black.

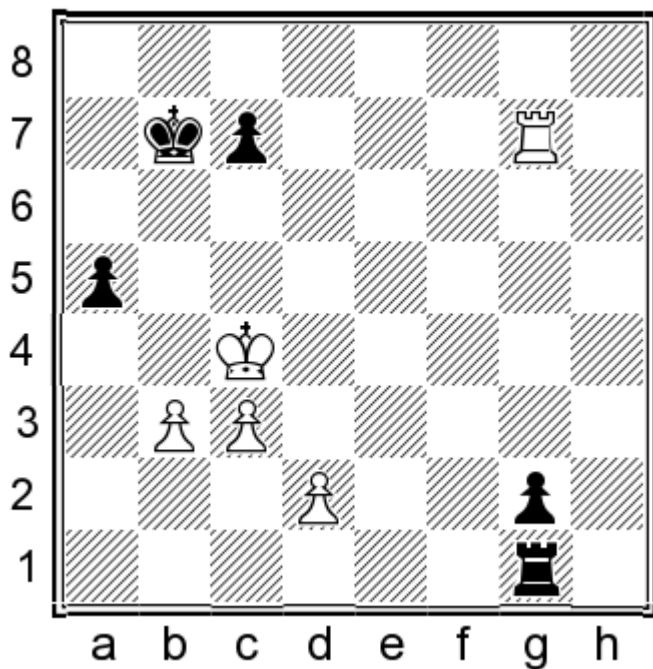
22.Ra4 Rxb2 23.Rxe4 Rd4?? Have you spotted the simple tactic?

23...Bg5 24.Re2 Rbh8- +

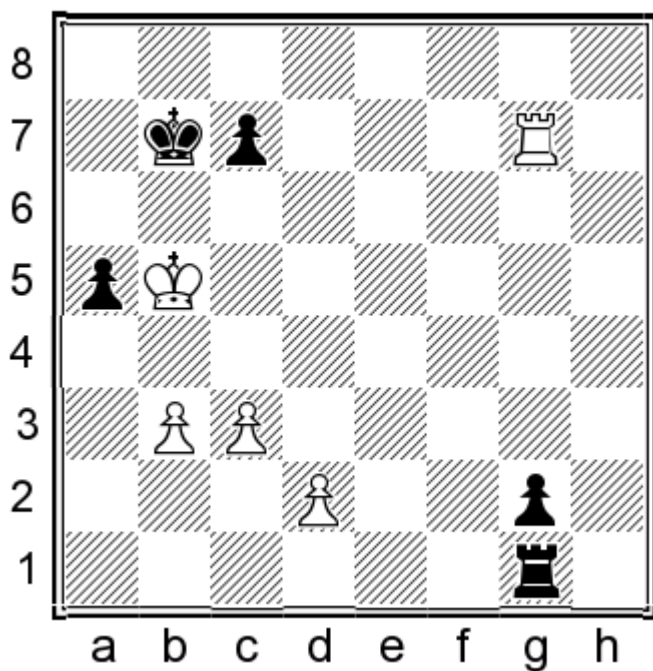
24.Rxf6+! Removing the defender.

24...gxf6 25.Rxd4 Rh1+ 26.Ke2 Rxc1 27.c3 f5 28.Rf4 Rg1 29.Rxf5 Rxb3 = 30.Rf6+ Kb7 31.Rxf7 a5 32.Rg7 Kb6 33.Rg5 It looks pretty drawish, but Jorden ends up falling for a nasty trap later in the game.

33...Rg1 34.Kd3 g3 35.Kc4 Rg2 36.Kd3 Rg1 37.b3 g2 38.Kc4 Kb7 39.Rg6 Kc8 40.Rg7 Kb7



41.Kb5?? Why is this a blunder?



41.Kc5 =

41...a4!! The white king has nowhere to hide, and the g-pawn will end up queening.

41...a4 42.Kxa4 (42.bxa4 Rb1+ 43.Kc4 g1=Q 44.Rxg1 Rxg1- + ; 42.b4 a3 43.Kc5 a2- +) 42...Ra1+ 43.Kb4 g1=Q 44.Rxg1 Rxg1- +

0-1

C47

Van Foreest, Jorden (2629) - Jumabayev, Rinat (2612)
Riyadh (rapid), 2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.a4 Be7 5.Bb5

5.d4!? A new move. This would be an attractive alternate option. Please have a look at the overview for different lines.

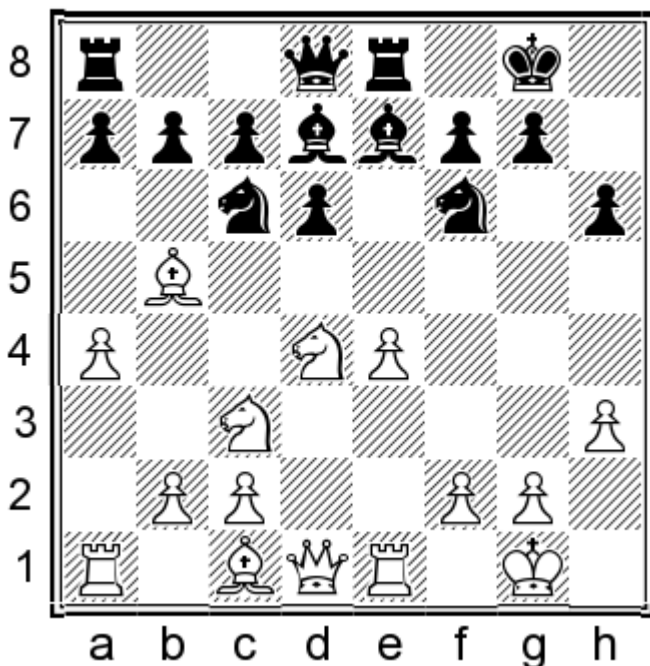
5...d6

5...O-O this should transpose to the game continuation.

5...a6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.h3 O-O 8.d3 We see similar positions in the Ruy Lopez Berlin d3 systems and Exchange Ruy Lopez. A long strategic battle is going to be fought with the white knight manoeuvring from f3 to c4 and then followed by the f4-pawn break.

6.d4 exd4 7.Nxd4 Bd7 8.O-O O-O 9.Re1 Re8 10.h3² We have got a Philidor/Ruy Lopez Steinitz structure on the board, and a4 is playing a useful role in defending the b5-bishop. White has got more space and more active pieces, whereas Black has a solid but cramped position giving White an edge.

10...h6



11.Bf4! This move pairs well with 10.h3 as White is waiting for the right moment to capture on c6, play the e5-pawn break and target the c7-pawn with his f4-bishop.

11...Bf8

11...Nxd4 12.Qxd4 c6 13.Bc4²

12.Bxc6?! This capture creates pawn structure and piece imbalance in the position, thus giving Black chances to complicate the game.

12.Nxc6 Bxc6 13.Qd3 Bd7 (13...Bxb5? 14.axb5 ± - a7 is a big target.; 13...Nd7?! 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qa6! Rb8 16.b3 Rb6 17.Qxa7 Nc5 18.Qa5²) 14.Bxd7 Nxd7 15.Rad1²

12...bxc6 13.e5

13.Qd3!?!; 13.Qf3!?

13...Nd5 14.Nxd5 dxe5 15.Bxe5?

15.Ne7+! Ensuring that Black has a broken queenside pawn structure.

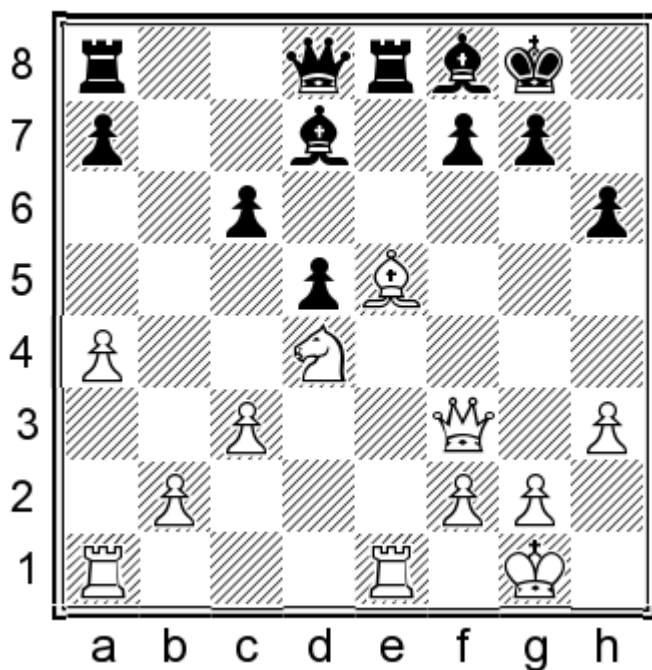
15...Rxe7 16.Rxe5 =

15...cxd5 Black has fixed his pawn structure issues and has got the bishop pair. Therefore, his prospects look really good in the long run.

16.Qf3 c6

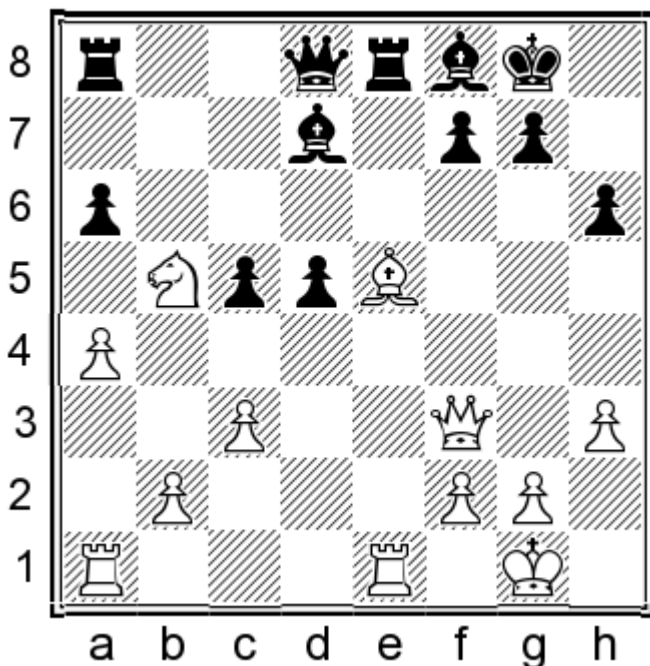
¹16...c5 17.Nf5 Qb6μ

17.c3



It is interesting to see how a strong player like Rinat is flexible in his thinking and admits that he should have played **17...c5!?** a move earlier, but decides he can still do it. The better you become as a player, the more you are open to admit your mistakes and try to quickly change the course of the game.

18.Nb5 a6



19.Nd6??

19.Nc7?? Rxe5 20.Rxe5 Qxc7- + ; 19.Bc7 I believe Jorden saw 19...Qc8 but couldn't calculate the ensuing complications. 20.Nd6! Rxe1+ 21.Rxe1 Qxc7 In a rapid game, this might look like it's already game over, but White has so many resources. 22.Qxf7+ Kh7 (22...Kh8 23.Ne8! + -) 23.Nf5! The key move had to be spotted before playing 19.Bc7. 23...Qc6 24.Ne7 Bxe7 25.Rxe7 Rg8 26.Rxd7 ±

19...Rxe5 20.Qxf7+ Kh8 21.Rxe5 Bxd6 22.Rxd5 Bc6- + 23.Rd3 Bh2+

24.Kxh2 Qxd3 Black should be able to win without many troubles, but it was not the case in this game as Jumabayev allowed White to swap the queens and pawns, thus taking the position closer to a draw.

25.Qe6 Qd5

¹25...Bd7 26.Qe5 c4

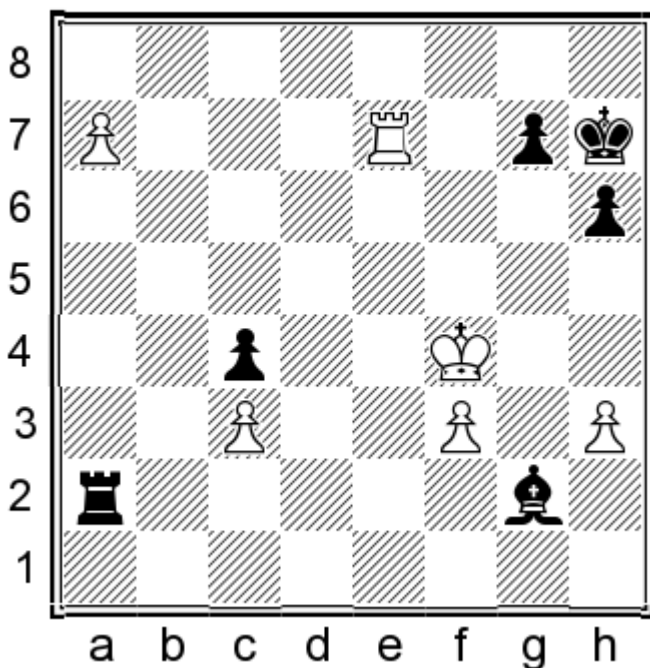
26.Qxd5 Bxd5 27.b4 Rb8 28.Rd1 Bc4 29.Rb1 Kh7 30.Kg3 Bd3 31.Rd1 c4 32.Re1 a5? Allows White to create a passed pawn.

32...Rb6

33.bxa5 Rb3 34.a6 Ra3 35.a7 Rxa4 36.Re7 Ra2 37.f3 It's not easy to win now as White has a bunch of tactical tricks up his sleeve.

37...Kg6

Rinat was hoping to play this but it fails to this trick 37...Bf1 38.Kf4 Bxg2



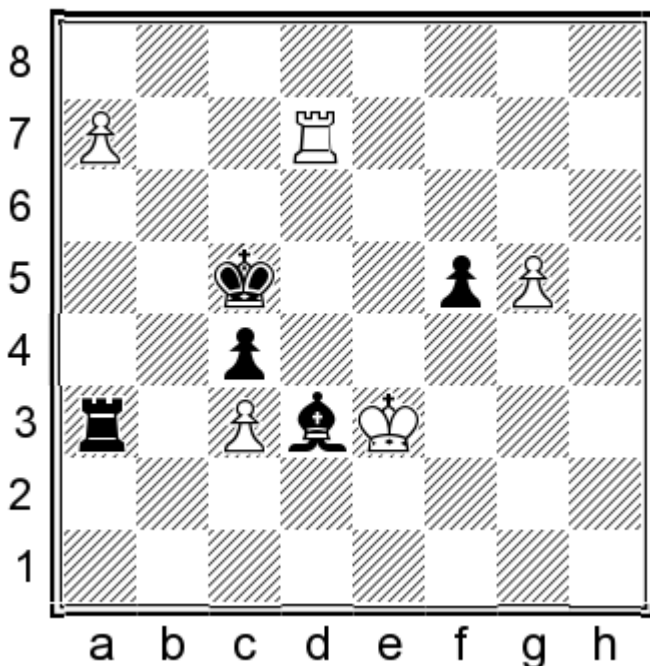
39.Re2!! Rxa7 40.Rxg2 =

**38.Kf4 Bf1 39.Rb7 Ra3 40.Rb1 Bd3 41.Rb6+ Kh7 42.Rb7 Bf1 43.Kg3 Kg6
44.Kf2 Bd3 45.Ke3 Kf6 46.h4 g6 47.g4 Ke5 48.f4+ Kd5 49.Rd7+**

49.h5! Forcing a draw. 49...gxh5 (49...Kc6 50.Rg7 gxh5 51.f5 hxg4 52.f6 Kd6
53.f7 Ke7 54.Rg8 Kxf7 55.a8=Q Rxa8 56.Rxa8 =) 50.Rb5+ Kc6 51.Rxh5
Rxa7 52.Rxh6+ =

49...Kc5 50.f5? White becomes greedy for a win here.

50...gxf5 51.g5 hxg5 52.hxg5



52...f4+! Controlling the g6-square.

53.Kxf4 Kb6- + 54.g6 Rxa7 55.g7 Bh7 56.Rd6+ Kc5 57.Rg6 Bg8 58.Rg5+ Kd6 59.Ke4 Ke6 60.Rb5 Kf6 61.Kd4 Kxg7 Its a matter of technique now, as there is no way White can hold this position.

62.Rg5+ Kf8 63.Re5 Re7 64.Ra5 Bf7 65.Ra8+ Kg7 66.Ra6 Rd7+ 67.Kc5 Rd5+ 68.Kb4 Re5 69.Rd6 Be6 70.Rd1 Kf6 71.Ra1 Re2 72.Ra5 Rb2+ 73.Kc5 Rb8 74.Ra1 Rc8+ 75.Kd4 Rd8+ 76.Kc5 Rd3 77.Kb4 Ke5 78.Ra8 Rd1 79.Ra2 Re1

¹79...Ke4 80.Ra6 Bg4 81.Rh6 Be2- +

80.Kc5 Re3 81.Kb4 Rh3 82.Re2+ Kd6 83.Rd2+ Bd5 84.Ra2 Rh8 85.Ra6+ Ke5 86.Ra1 Rb8+ 87.Kc5 Rc8+ 88.Kb4 Be4 89.Ra7 Bd3 90.Re7+ Kd6 91.Rb7 Ra8 92.Rb6+ Kd5 93.Rh6 Rb8+ 94.Ka4 Rb3 95.Rh5+ Ke4 96.Rh4+ Ke3 97.Rh3+ Kd2 0-1

C47

Van Woerden, HGC. - Rasmussen, P.
corr, 1994

This game we will examine, and yes, it started with 1.a4?!

1.a4 e5 2.e4 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 We have got our opening position.

4...d6 Black chooses one of the solid options.

5.d4 White decides to get more control of the centre, and this solid but passive pawn structure for Black always allows White to develop pieces freely and get a slightly better position.

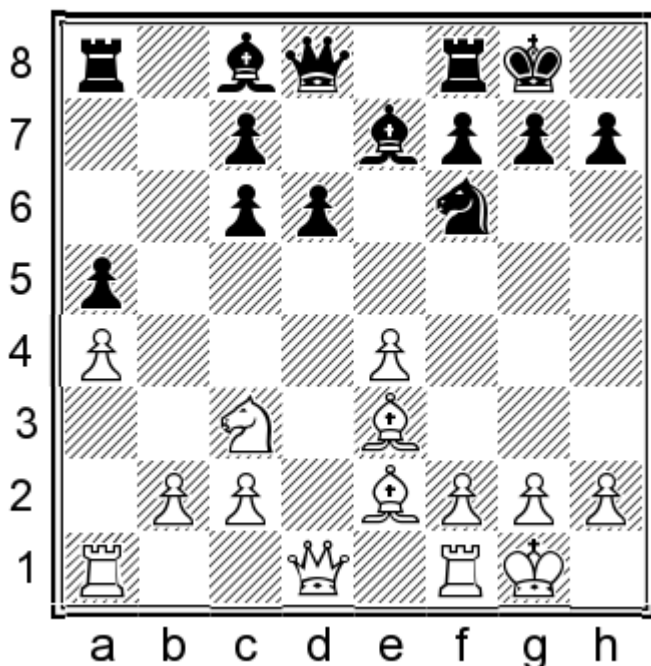
5...exd4 6.Nxd4 Be7 7.Nxc6?! Not a great idea to give the black rook on a8 access to the b-file.

7.Bc4 O-O 8.O-O² We have some sort of Philidor Defence position on the board, and White's space advantage gives him a slight edge. **8...Re8** (8...Nxe4? 9.Nxe4 d5 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Bd3 dxe4 12.Bxe4 ±) **9.h3 Bf8** (Boudreau, Daniel 2085 - Levkovsky,Alexandre 2284, Montreal 2013) **10.Bg5!** A new move. **10...h6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Ndb5 Qd8 13.Nd5 Rxe4 14.Bd3 Re5 15.Nbxc7 Nb4! (15...Rb8?? 16.f4 + -) 16.Bc4 Nxd5 17.Nxd5 ±** White has a firm grip on the d5-square, while a future target is the d6 backward pawn.

7...bxc6 8.Be2 O-O 9.O-O a5

9...Rb8!?

10.Be3



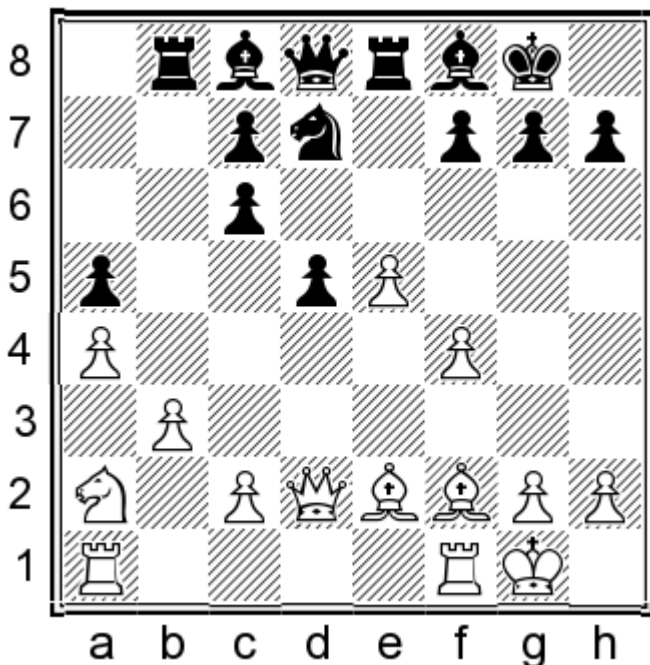
10...d5! A timely strike. Now Black also gets some grip on the centre.

11.e5 Nd7 12.f4 Re8?!

12...Bc5 One of the easiest ways to solve the lack of space problem is by exchanging pieces on the board. 13.Qd2 Qe7 ∞ Black has quite a few ideas, like swapping the bishops and then the queen, or breaking down the centre with the f6-pawn exchange. White cannot push his kingside pawns and has to react to Black's ideas.

13.Bf2 Rb8 14.b3 Bf8?!

14...Bb4 Provoking the knight would have been a better option as the knight has to go backwards. 15.Na2 Bf8 16.Qd2



16...f6!,, Counterattack! 17.Bh4 Be7 18.Qxa5 fxe5 19.Bxe7 Qxe7 20.fxe5 (20.Qxc7??? Too greedy! 20...Qc5+ 21.Kh1 Rb7- + The queen is trapped!) 20...Nxe5 21.Rae1 ∞

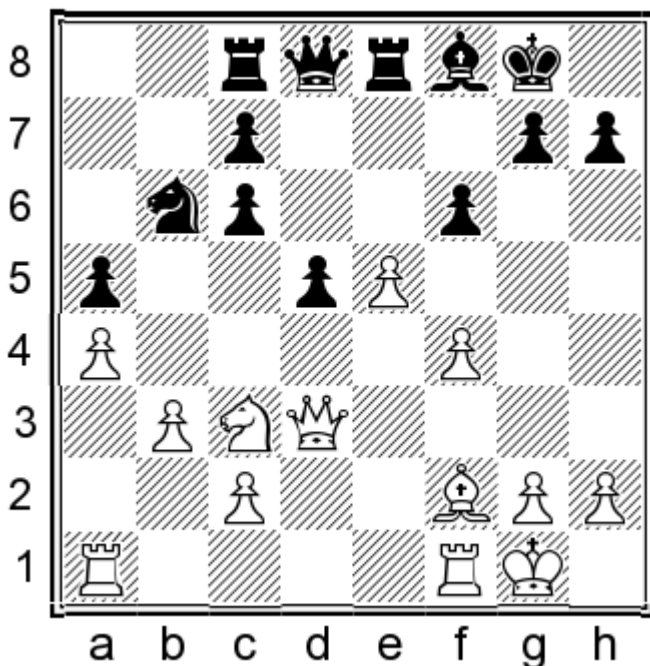
15.Bg4

15.Bf3² White will reroute the knight to d4 via a2 and get a slight edge.

15...Nb6?

15...Nc5 An active square in comparison to the move played in the game.

16.Bxc8 Rxc8 17.Qd3 f6! Black is fighting back. If the e5-pawn is left unchallenged, White will defend the pawn with a piece, push f5 and create an attack on the black king.



18.Rae1! It makes sense to bring the a1-rook and not the f1-rook to e1, as White can generate future activity on the f-file with the rook.

18...fxe5 19.fxe5 Re6? A terrible choice of piece to block the pawn. Have you figured out how White can seize the advantage?

19...Bb4 Clearing the f8-square so that Black can manoeuvre his b6-knight to e6 via d7-f8, as we all know that knight is one of the best pawn blockaders.

20.Re2 Nd7 ∞

20.Na2?

20.Ne2 Did we just blunder a pawn? **20...Rxe5 21.Nd4 Rxe1 22.Bxe1!** This is the point of **20.Ne2!** Black's two pawns are under attack, and Black pieces are poorly placed in comparison to White's forces. **22...Qd7 23.Bxa5 c5 24.Nf5 ±**

20...Qe8 21.Qd2 White has set a devilish trap!

21...Ra8 Black rightly avoids capturing the pawn on e5.

21...Rxe5?? Have you spotted the trap? **22.Bxb6 cxb6 (22...Rxe1 23.Rxe1 +-)** **23.Rxf8+!** The key move! **23...Kxf8 24.Qf4+ +-**

22.Nc1 c5

22...Rxe5?? The pawn is still poisoned. **23.Bxb6 Bb4 24.c3 cxb6 25.cxb4 +-**

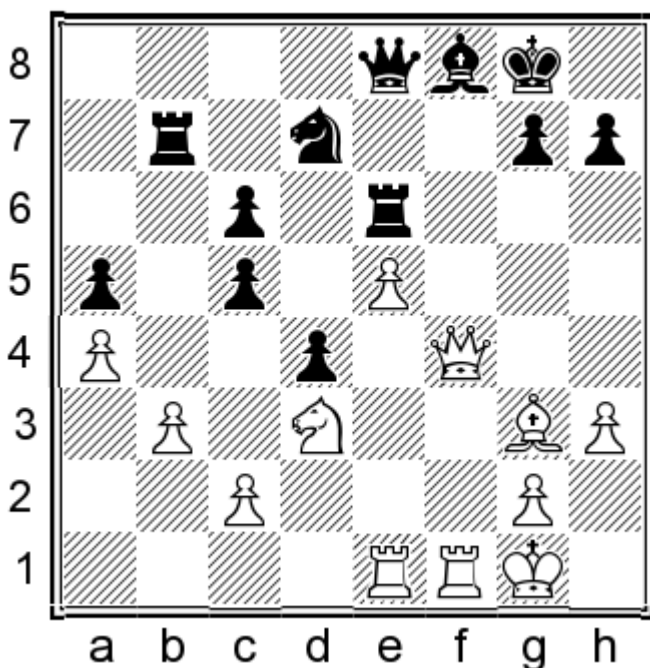
23.Qf4 Nd7? The problem with this move is that it allows the white knight to

23...c4? A premature pawn push. 24.Bxb6 cxb6 25.bxc4 dxc4 26.Qxc4 ±;
23...h6 24.h4∞ (24.Nd3 c4∞)

26...Rb7 27.h3 d4

27...Rg6 28.Qf4 +-

28.Qf4



28...Nb6?? Black makes a tactical blunder in a positionally lost situation.

29.Qxf8+! Qxf8 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8 31.Nxc5 Rbe7 32.Nxe6+ Rxe6 33.Re4 c5
34.Be1 Nd7 35.Bxa5 1-0

Not a perfect game, but the a4-pawn push did play a significant role, as at some point, Black pushed ...a5 it was captured on the last move of the game!

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.a4 Bb4 I would call this the mainline.

5.Bd3 So, we have got the reversed Four Knights 4.Bb5 Bd6 line on the board, with a4 being the additional move.

5...d6 6.O-O

6.Nd5!? Bc5 7.c3 a5 (7...a6 8.Bc2 Ba7 9.O-O h6 (Kamer,Kayra 2339 - Kazakovskiy,Valery 2476, Beograd 2021) 10.Ne3!? O-O 11.b4 ∞) 8.O-O O-O transposes back to the game.

6...O-O

6...Bg4?! A tempting new move to pin the piece, but it leads to some dangerous complications. 7.Nd5! The complications favour White. 7...Bc5 (7...Nxd5? 8.exd5 Nd4 9.c3! Nxf3+ 10.gxf3 Bh3 11.Kh1 Bxf1 12.Qxf1 Bc5 13.b4 Bb6 14.a5 +- Advantages of playing an early a4 become visible!) 8.c3 a5 9.h3 Bh5 10.Bb5 Ba7 (10...Nxe4 11.d4 Ba7 12.Qe2 Bg6 13.Qc4 Rc8 14.Be3 O-O 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Qxc6 ± Black has too many weaknesses.) 11.d4 Nd7 12.Ne3²

7.Nd5! Bc5

7...Nxd5?? This will get the bishop on b4 trapped. 8.exd5 Ne7 9.c3 Bc5 10.b4 Bb6 11.a5 +-

8.c3 a5 Ending once and for all the trapping ideas.

9.Bc2 Nxd5 10.exd5 Ne7 11.Ng5

11.d4 exd4 12.Nxd4 (12.cxd4 Bb6 13.Bg5 f6 14.Bd2 Bf5 ∞) 12...Nxd5 13.Nb3 Be6 14.Nxc5 dxc5© Black should have no issues in this position.

11...h6

¹11...Bf5 It kills all White's aggressive ideas. 12.Bxf5 Nxf5 13.Qh5 h6 14.Ne4 Qc8 (14...g6!? 15.Qh3 h5 ∞ The outpost is secured on f5 for the knight, and I expect this to be a rich position that requires more testing.; 14...Qd7 15.Qg4 threatening the simple Nf6! 15...Qc8 ∞) 15.d3 f6 16.Nxc5 dxc5 17.f4 Re8 ∞

12.d4! Increasing the tension on the board.

12.Nh7!? Re8 13.Nf6+ gxf6 14.d4 would most likely transpose into the game continuation.

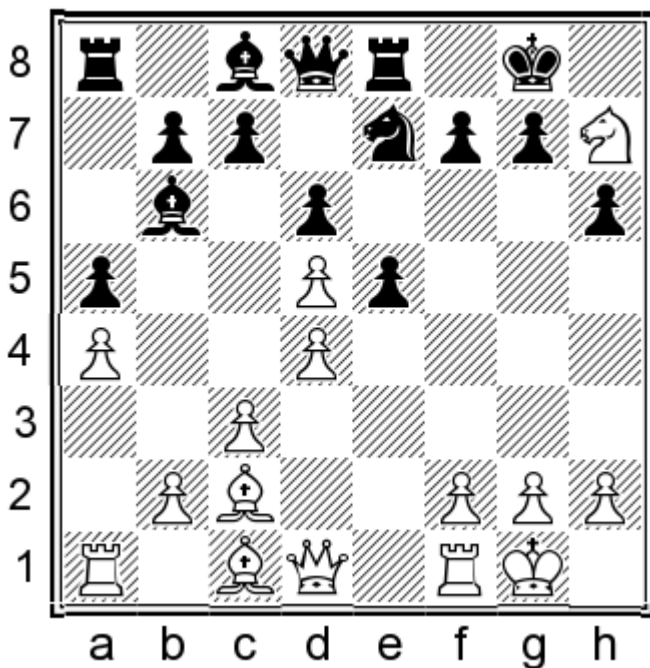
12...Bb6

12...hxg5 13.dxc5 f6 14.h4! The idea of this pawn sacrifice is that after White's 15th move, Black won't be able to play 15...Bf5. (14.Qh5?! Bf5 15.Bxf5 Nxf5³) 14...gxh4 15.Qh5 f5 16.Re1f

13.Nh7! Initiative triumphs over material here, and Magnus comes up with a

killer plan!

13...Re8



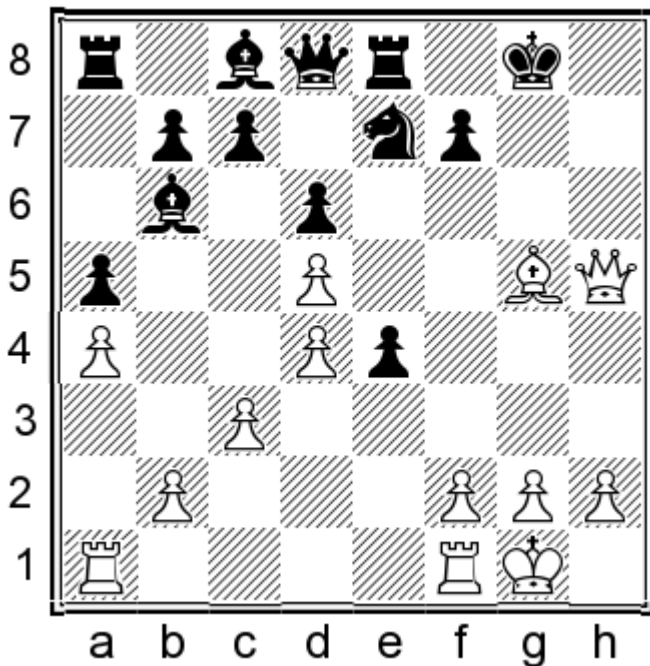
14.Nf6+!! gxf6 15.Qh5 e4! Wesley finds one of the best defences in the position.

15...f5 16.Bxh6 Nxd5 17.Bg5 Qd7 (17...Nf4? 18.Qh4 Ng6 19.Qh6 Re7 20.Bb3!! d5 21.Bxd5 Qd6 22.dxe5 Rxe5 23.Rad1 + -; 17...f6 18.Qg6+ Kh8 19.Qh6+ Kg8 20.Bb3 + -) 18.Bb3 White badly wants to occupy the f6-square. 18...Nf4 19.Qh6 Re6 20.Bxe6 fxe6 21.dxe5 Nd3 (21...dxe5?? 22.Rad1 Qg7 23.Rd8+ Kf7 24.Bxf4 exf4 25.Qh5+ Kf6 26.Qh4+ Kf7 27.Rfd1 + - Black will most likely lose his queen or get checkmated.) 22.exd6 cxd6 23.Qg6+ Qg7 24.Qe8+ Kh7 (24...Qf8 25.Qb5 + -) 25.Qh5+ Kg8 26.Bh6 Qg4 27.Qe8+ Kh7© Black needs to be precise to get out of the complications safe.

15...Qd7! 16.h3™ (16.Qxh6?? Nf5- +) 16...Ng6 17.Bxg6 fxg6 18.Qxg6+ Kh8 19.Re1 Rg8 20.Qxh6+ Qh7 21.Qxf6+ Qg7 22.Qh4+ Qh7 23.Qf6+ Qg7 = (23...Rg7?? 24.Bh6 Bd7 25.dxe5 + -)

16.Re1 Getting ready to bring the rook into the attack.

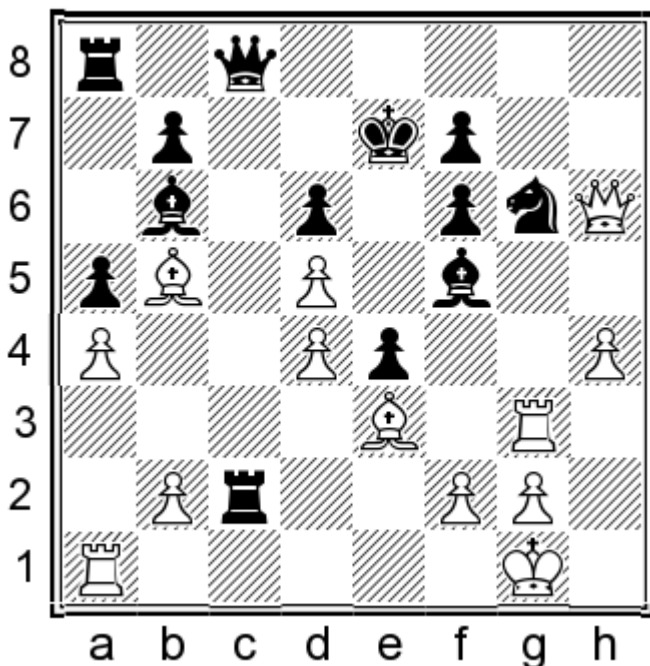
16.Bxe4? f5 17.Bxh6 fxe4 18.Bg5



18...Bg4!! Distracting the white queen so that Black can buy enough time to fortify the king. 19.Qxg4 f5 20.Qh5 Rf8³

16...f5?? Weakens the g5-square, allowing White easy access to the black king.

16...Bf5 Bringing more pieces to defend the king. 17.Re3 Bg6 (17...Qd7 18.Rg3+ Ng6© I understand this position very little, and what it looks to me is that White will get the h4-h5 pawn push and get the piece back in the worst case. 19.h4 c5 20.Be3 cxd4 21.cxd4 Kf8 22.Bd1! Rec8 23.Be2 Rc2 24.Bb5 Qc8 25.Qxh6+ Ke7



26.Rg5!! Kd8∞) 18.Rg3 Qd7 19.Bxe4 f5 20.Bd3 Nxd5 21.Bxh6 Qe6
22.Bd2© Black has consolidated his kingside, and the game should end in a draw by repetition.

16...c5 Attempting to active the b6-bishop. 17.Rxe4 Bf5 18.Bxh6! Bxe4
19.Bxe4 f5™ 20.Bg5 (20.Bd3 Ng6™ 21.Bg5 Qd7 22.g4! Re4 23.f3™ cxd4
24.fxe4 fxe4 25.Bxe4 dxc3+ 26.Kg2 cxb2 27.Re1 Bd4©) 20...fxe4 21.Bf6
Ng6 22.Bxd8 Raxd8© Queen and two pawns against the rook, bishop and knight, but the biggest issue for Black is the coordination of the minor pieces and the weak king. Therefore, White has ample chances to keep the initiative going.

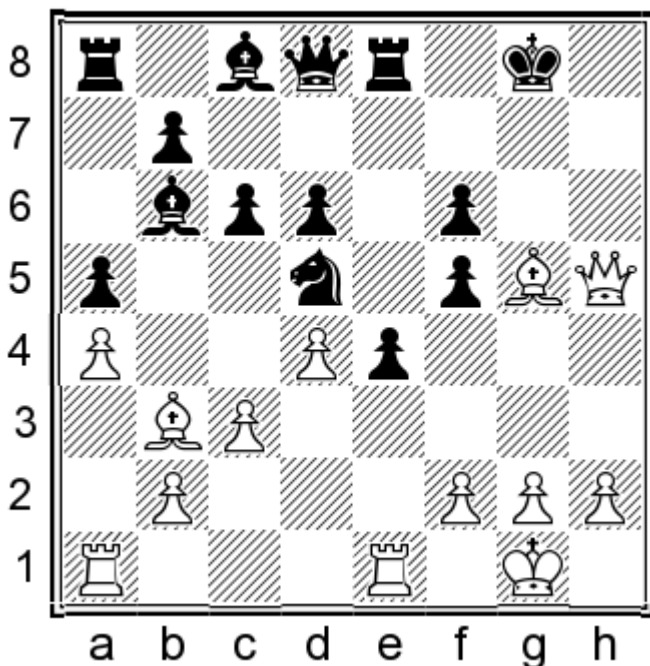
17.Bxh6 Nxd5 18.Bg5

18.Bb3 + -

18...f6

18...Qd7 19.Bb3 c6 20.Bxd5 cxd5 21.Bf6 f4 22.Qh8#; 18...Nf6 19.Qh4 Re6
20.Re3 + -

19.Bb3 c6



19...fxg5 20.Qg6+™ (20.Bxd5+?? Kg7 21.Qf7+ Kh6- +) 20...Kf8 21.Bxd5 Be6 22.Bxe6 Rxe6 23.Qxe6 + -

20.Re3!! White's pieces hanging everywhere, but Carlsen doesn't stop from adding more pieces into the attack and ensuring that the initiative keeps going!

20.Bh6 Re7 21.Re3 + -

20...Kf8

20...fxg5 21.Bxd5+ cxd5 22.Qg6+ Kf8 23.Rh3 Be6 24.Rh8+ Ke7 25.Rh7+ Kf8 26.Qg7#; 20...Re7 21.Bxf6 f4 22.Qg6+ Kf8 23.Bxe7+ Qxe7 24.Rxe4 + -

21.Qg6! f4

21...fxg5 22.Bxd5 cxd5 23.Rh3 + - Checkmate in four moves.

22.Bh6+ Ke7 23.Qh7+ 1-0

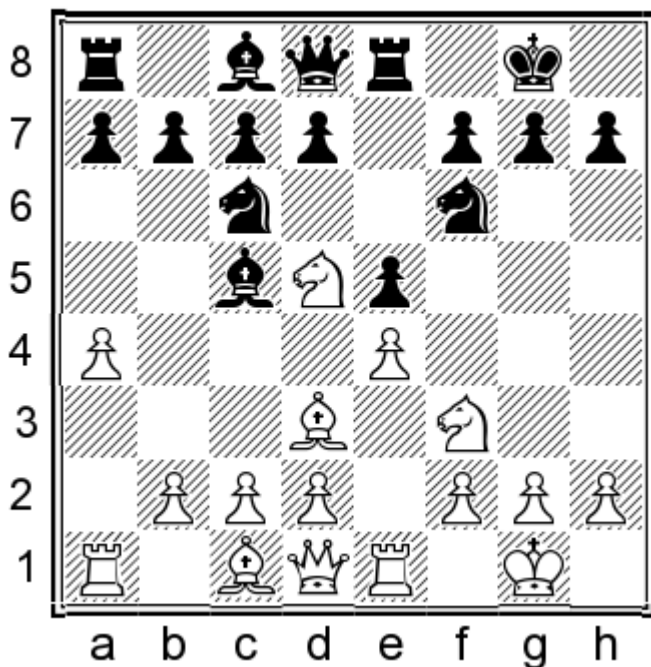
C47

Van Foreest, Lucas (2531) - Fridman, Daniel (2635)
Belgique, 2020

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.a4 Bb4 5.Bd3 O-O 6.O-O Re8 This is a safer option for Black, in my opinion.

6...d6 We saw this in the previous game between Carlsen and So.

7.Re1 Bc5 8.Nd5



8...Nb4?! This allows White to gain a tempo.

8...d6 9.c3 a5 10.Bc2 Ba7 (10...Nxd5? 11.exd5 Ne7 Similar position as in Magnus Carlsen - Wesley So, but with the inclusion of rooks on e1 and e8, which should favour White as the f7-pawn is also slightly weak in Black's camp now. 12.Ng5 Bf5 13.Bxf5 Nxf5 14.Qh5²) 11.Ne3! (11.d4 h6 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 dxe5 14.Be3 =) 11...Bd7 12.d3 ∞

9.Nxb4 Bxb4 10.c3 Bf8 11.Bc2

11.Bc4 c6 12.d4 d5 13.dxe5 Nxe4 14.Bd3 Bf5 ∞

11...d5 12.d3

12.d4 dxe4 13.dxe5 Qxd1 14.Rxd1 exf3 15.exf6 fxg2 16.fxg7 Bd6 =

12...dxe4 13.dxe4 Qxd1 14.Rxd1 This is a simple equality. **14...a5 15.Bg5 Bg4 16.h3 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Rd8 18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Rxd8 Rxd8 20.Rd1 Rxd1+ 1/2-1/2**

Conclusion

The 4.a4! line will be tested a lot more times at the elite level, and the line does have a surprise factor for faster time controls.

More importantly, your opponent could compare this system with the standard Four Knights system and lose a lot of time on the clock and still be confused about the minor differences, giving you an edge if you are better prepared.

The line is not technically dubious for White, but there are many ways in which Black can equalise without any issues.

NEW IDEAS IN THE PHILIDOR DEFENCE

Danilo Milanović

• **Country:** Serbia

• **Born:** 1974

• **Rating:** 2443

• **Peak rating:** 2564

• **Title:** Grandmaster since 2008



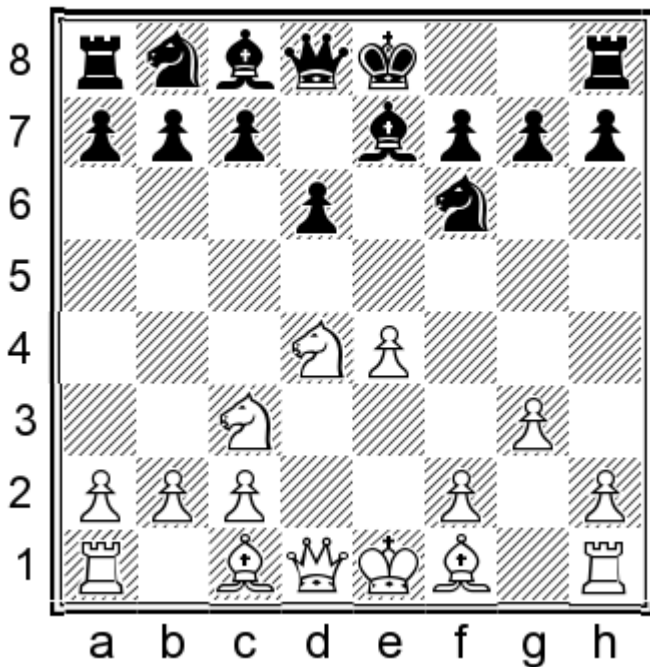
The ed4 Philidor was rarely included in repertoires of the elite players due to its reputation as a very passive defence. However, a few of Dubov's games brought a new light to the opening thanks to his immense creativity and inspiration. Also, the World Champion Carlsen contributed with one really exceptional game.

The aforementioned games inspired me to write this article and to show which weapons are at Black's disposal in the modern Philidor. I explored four most commonly played continuations for White (the first two being a really tough challenge for Black). The first line is 6.g3 with positional pressure on White's part, and the other 6.Bf4 with extremely active attacking play, including the long castle and direct attack on Black's king on the kingside.

CHAPTER 1

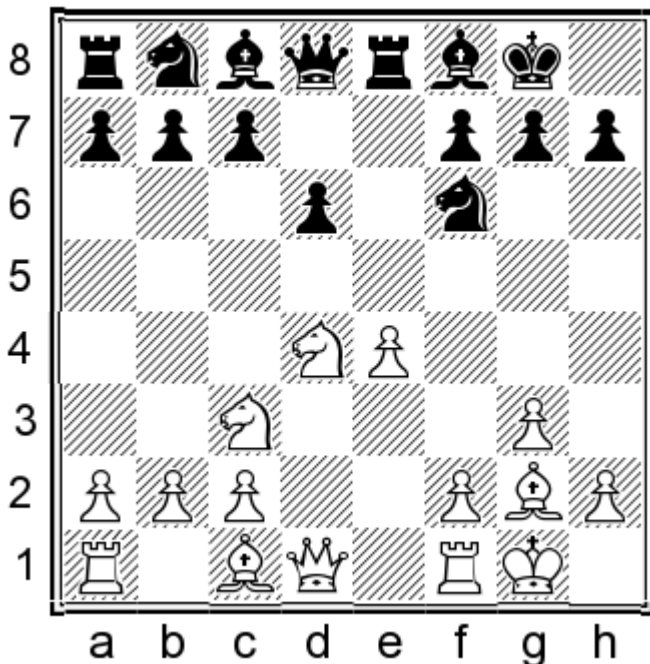
6.g3

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 exd4 5.Nxd4 Be7 6.g3



White is trying to generate some positional pressure in this variation. On the other hand, Black intends to strike in the centre with the timely d5 push!

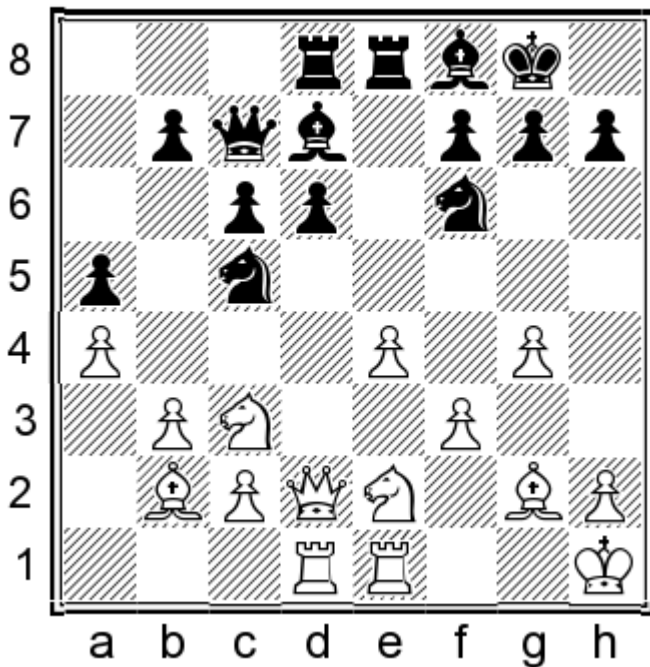
6...O-O 7.Bg2 Re8 8.O-O Bf8



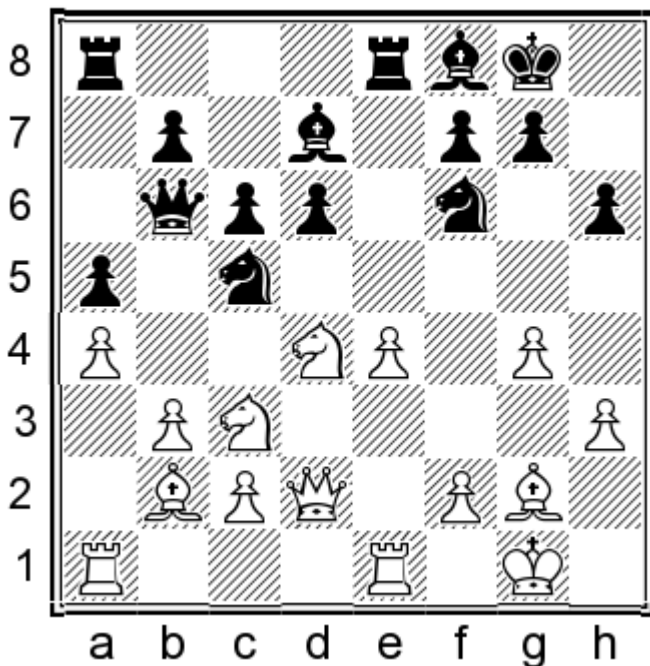
White must solve the problem of his dark-square bishop's development and coordination of the major pieces. Bd2 would be too passive, while Be3 would put in some danger the e4-pawn. So Bb2 and Bf4 remain as possible options.

9.h3

9.b3 Nbd7 10.Bb2 Nc5 11.Re1 a5 12.a4 (12.Qd2 a4 13.Rad1 c6 14.h3 Qb6 15.g4 h6 16.f4 Ne6 17.Kh1 Nxd4 18.Qxd4 Qxd4 19.Rxd4 axb3 20.axb3 d5,,) 12...c6 13.Qd2 Qb6 14.h3 (14.Rad1 Bg4 15.f3 Bd7 16.Kh1 h6!? ∞ (16...Rad8 17.g4 h6 ∞ (17...Qc7 18.Nde2?!



18...d5!,, Prusikin,Michael 2546 - Hickl,Joerg 2577, Schweiz 2013 - 119/93)))
 14...Bd7 15.g4 h6



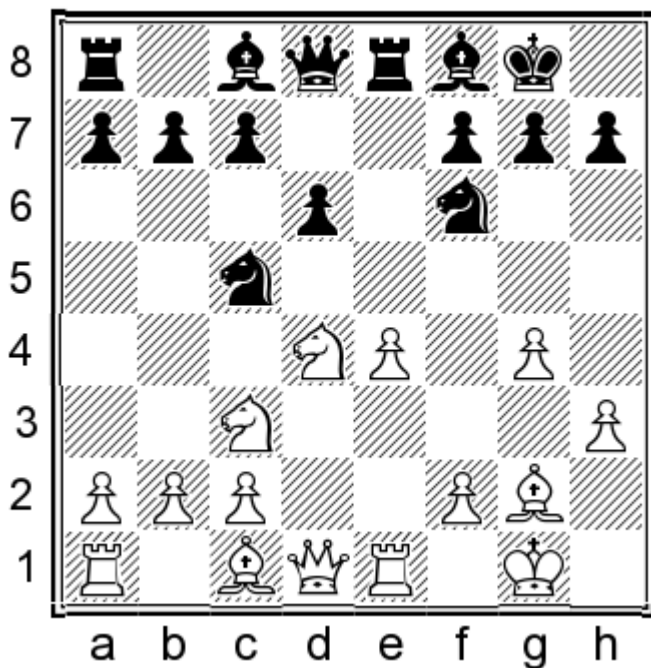
Black is obliged to prevent the g5-pawn advance! 16.Nf5 (16.f4?! Ne6

17.Ne2 d5 18.e5 Ne4 19.Bxe4 (19.Qe3?! f6!? 20.Bxe4 fxe5 21.fxe5 dxe4³)
 19...dxe4 20.Ng3 Rad8,,; 16.Rad1 Rad8 17.Nf5 (17.Qf4 Re5 (17...Bc8 18.Nf5
 Bxf5 19.gxf5 Ncd7) 18.Nf5 (18.Qg3?! Rde8∞)) 17...Bxf5 18.gxf5 Rd7∞ see
 16.Nf5) 16...Bxf5 17.gxf5 (17.exf5?! d5 18.Rxe8 Rxe8 19.Re1 Rd8∞)
 17...Rad8 18.Rad1 Rd7!? 19.Qf4 Qd8∞

9...Nbd7 10.g4

10.Re1 Nc5 11.g4 see main line.

10...Nc5 11.Re1



11...h6!? Black is well-advised to stop the white pawns from advancing any further.

11...c6 12.g5 Nfd7 13.f4 a5 14.Be3 Qc7 (It is better to play 14...Nb6 15.Bf2
 d5 16.e5 (16.exd5 Nxd5!? 17.Rxe8 Qxe8 18.Nxd5 cxd5 19.Bxd5 Bxh3∞)
 16...Ne6 17.Nce2 a4!?∞) 15.a4² Karjakin,Sergey 2752 - Carlsen,Magnus
 2862, chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2020

12.Bf4

12.g5 hxg5 13.Bxg5 c6 14.f4 Be7 15.Qf3 Ne6 16.Nxe6 Bxe6∞

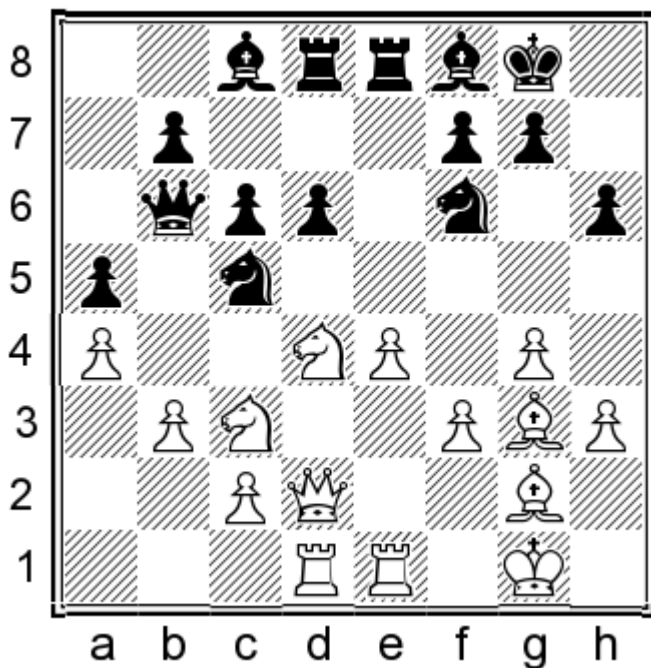
12...a5 13.a4 Prevents Black from seizing more space.

13...c6 14.Bg3 Be6 15.Qd2 Qb6 16.b3

16.Rad1 Qxb2 17.Rb1 Qa3 18.Ra1 (18.f3? Nxa4 19.Nxa4 Qxa4³) 18...Qb4
19.Rab1 Qa3 =

16...Rad8 17.Rad1 Bc8 18.f3

18.Kh2 g6 19.f3 Bg7 (19...Qb4!? ∞) 20.Qf2 h5!? ∞ Carlsen,Magnus 2863 -
Dubov,Daniil 2699, chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2020



18...d5!? This is Black's main idea. **19.e5**

19.exd5 Rxe1+ 20.Qxe1 Nxd5 21.Nxd5 Rxd5 ∞

19...Nh7 20.Nce2

20.f4 f6 21.Bh4 Ne6 22.Ne2 Be7 ∞

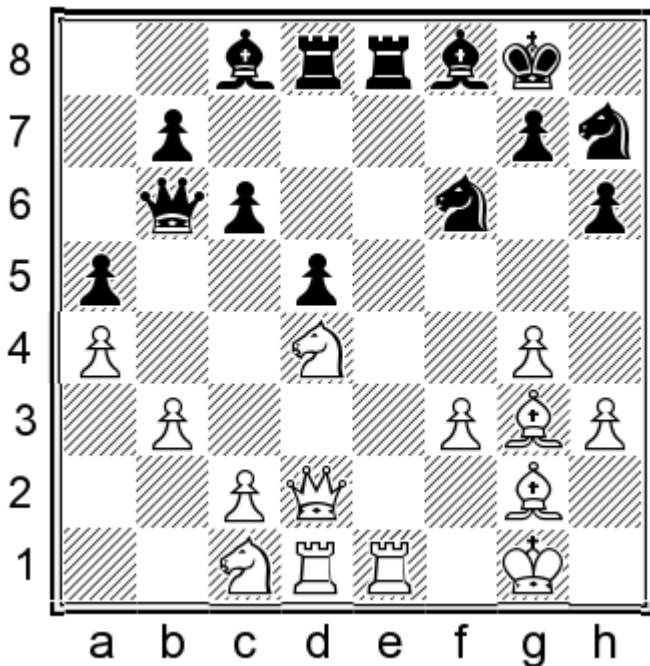
20...Nd7 21.Nc1

21.f4 f6 22.Bh4 Bc5 23.Kh1 g5!? 24.Bf2 fxe5 25.fxe5 Nxe5 26.Ng3©

21...f6 22.exf6

22.e6? Nc5μ

22...Ndx6!? ∞

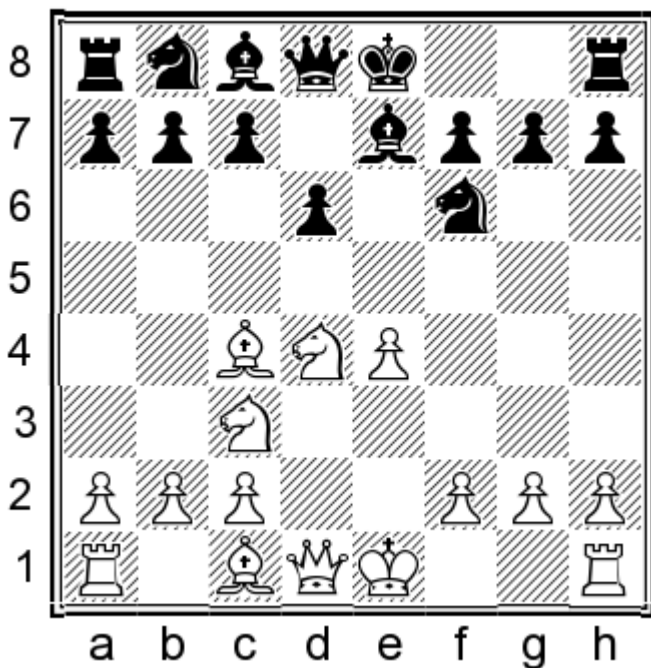


In the ensuing endgame Black would have to deal with the weak a5-pawn. Also, dark squares around White's king are somewhat weakened, so Black should try to exchange the dark-square bishops.

CHAPTER 2

6.Bc4

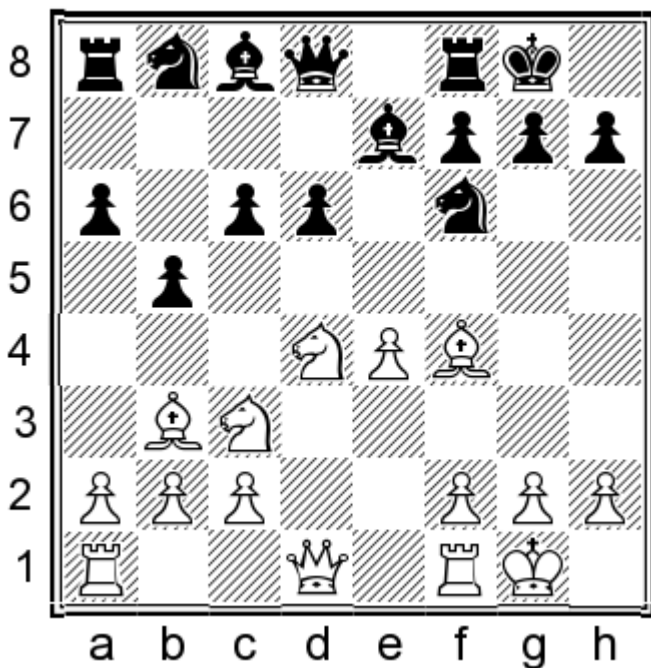
1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 exd4 5.Nxd4 Be7 6.Bc4



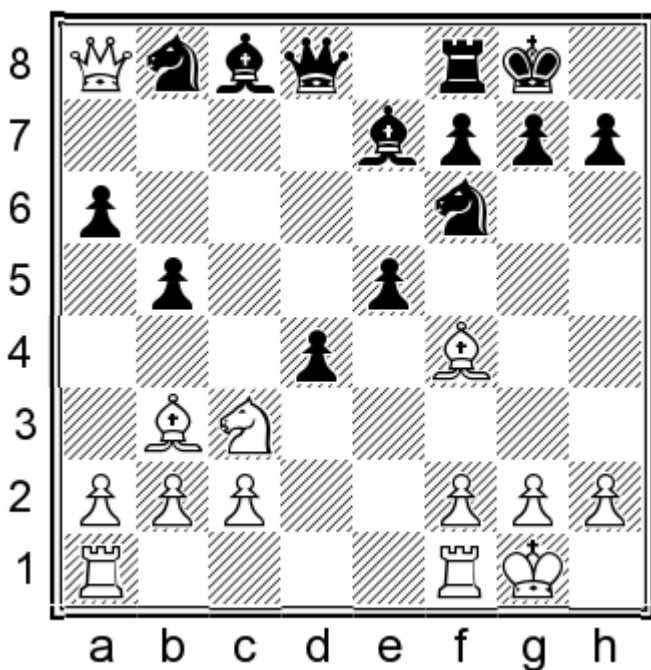
In comparison to the 6.Be2 line, the white bishop is much more active, but it allows Black to execute d5, or b5 pawn pushes.

6...O-O 7.O-O c6 8.a4

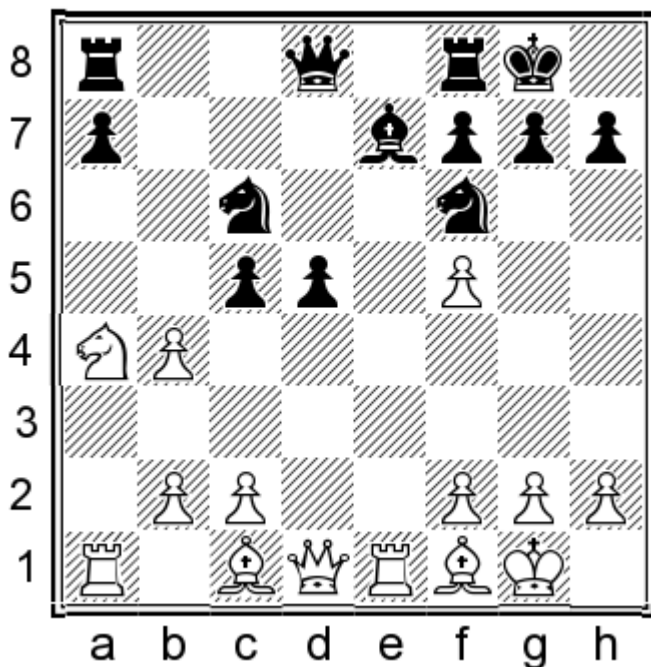
8.Bf4 b5 9.Bb3 (9.Bd3 b4 10.Nce2 c5 11.Nf3 Be6 12.c3 (12.Ng5 Bg4 13.h3 (13.f3?! Bc8 × Ng5) 13...Bh5 14.g4 Bg6 15.Ng3 Nc6 ∞) 12...Nc6 13.h3 h6 ∞) 9...a6



10.a3 (10.Qf3 c5 11.e5 (11.Nf5 c4 12.e5 dxe5 13.Rad1 (13.Qxa8 Bxf5- +) 13...Qe8 14.Nxe7+ Qxe7 15.Qxa8 Bb7 16.Qa7 exf4- +) 11...dxe5 12.Qxa8 cxd4



13.Qxb8 (13.Bxe5 dxc3 14.Bxc3 (14.Bxb8 cxb2 15.Rad1 Bd7-+; 14.Qxb8 Nd7 15.Qc7 Nxe5 16.Qxe5 Bf6 17.Qf4 cxb2 18.Rad1 Qe7-+) 14...Qc7-+) 13...exf4 14.Ne2 Bd6 15.Qa7 d3!? 16.cxd3 f3!? 17.gxf3 Nh5©) 10...c5 11.Nde2 (11.Nf3 c4 12.Ba2 Bb7 13.Re1 Nbd7!? (13...Nc6 14.Qd2 Ne5 15.Nxe5 dxe5 16.Qxd8 Rfxd8 17.Bxe5 Rd2 18.Rac1) 14.Bxd6 Nc5 15.Bxe7 (15.e5 Bxd6 16.Qxd6 Qxd6 17.exd6 Bxf3 18.gxf3 Rfd8 19.Rad1 Nb7) 15...Qxe7 16.e5 Ng4,,) 11...c4 12.Ba2 Nc6 13.Qd2 Ne5 14.Rad1 (14.Nd4 Bb7 15.Rfe1 g6∞) 14...Bb7 15.Ng3 Re8 16.Rfe1 g6 17.h3 Qc7 18.b3∞; 8.Re1 b5 9.Bf1 (9.Bb3 b4 10.Nb1 c5 11.Nf3 Bb7 12.Bf4 a5 (12...Nbd7 13.Bxd6 Bxd6 14.Qxd6 Nxe4 15.Qf4 Qf6 16.Qxf6 Ndx6) 13.c3 (13.Nbd2 a4 14.Bc4 Nbd7∞) 13...Nbd7 14.Bxd6 Bxd6 15.Qxd6 Nxe4 16.Qf4 a4 17.Bc2 Ndf6∞) 9...b4 10.Na4 (10.Nb1 c5 11.Nf3 (11.Nf5 Bxf5 12.exf5 d5 13.a3 a5 14.axb4 cxb4 15.Be3 Nbd7∞) 11...Bb7 12.Nbd2 Nbd7∞) 10...c5 11.Nf5 Bxf5 12.exf5 Nc6 13.g3 (13.a3 d5 14.axb4

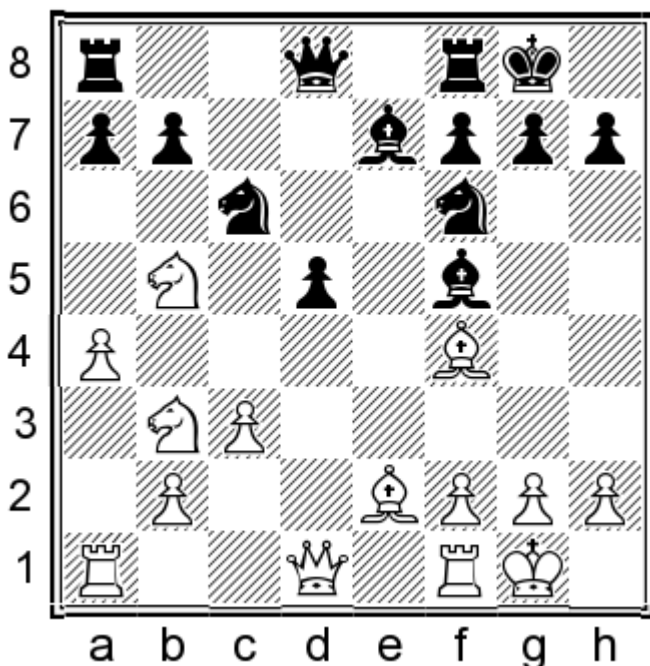


14...cxb4!? With the idea of preventing the white knight from coming back in action. 15.Bb5 Rc8 16.Be3 Bd6∞; 13.c3 d5 14.cxb4 Nxb4∞) 13...d5 14.Bg2 Qd7 15.Bg5 Qxf5 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Qxd5 Qxd5 18.Bxd5 Rac8∞

8...d5 Black can opt for a typical isolani type of position here, since White weakened his queenside to some extent with the a4 pawn advance.

9.exd5 cxd5 10.Bb3

10.Be2 Nc6 11.Bf4 Bc5 12.Nb3 Bb4 13.Nb5 Bf5 14.c3 Be7



15.N5d4 (15.Bf3 Rc8 ∞ Markovic,Miroslav 2509 - Sedlak,Nikola 2514, Srbija i Crna Gora 2005 (15...Qd7 ∞ is better.); 15.N3d4 Be4 ∞) 15...Be4 ∞ ;

10.Bd3 Nc6 11.Nf5 Bb4 12.Bg5 Bxc3 13.bxc3 Bxf5 14.Bxf5 Qd6 ∞
Codenotti,Marco 2374 - Nisipeanu,Liviu Dieter 2654, Jerusalem 2015

10...Nc6 11.h3 Restricting the black light-square bishop's scope.

11.Nce2 Bg4 12.Be3 Bd6 13.h3 Bh5 14.c3 Re8 15.Re1 Bc7 ∞ ;

11.Re1 Bg4 12.Qd3 Bc5 13.Be3 Bb6 14.f3 Bh5 15.Rad1 Bg6 16.Qd2 Rc8 ∞

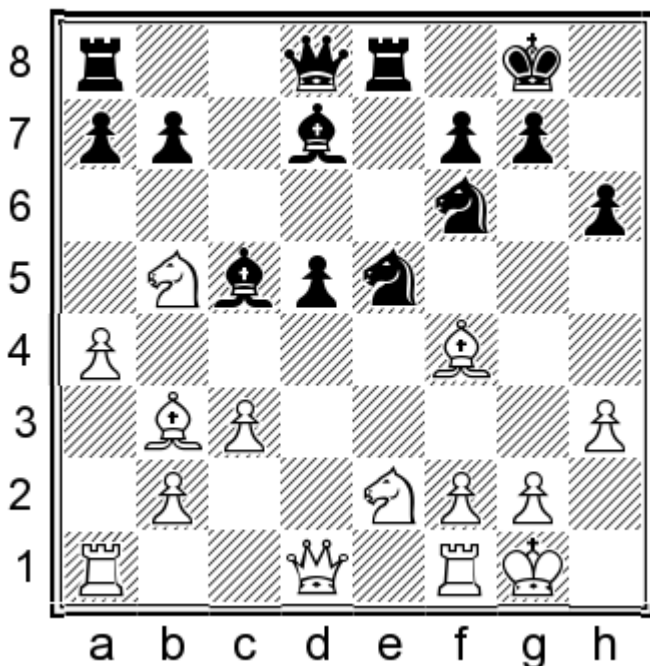
11...h6 12.Bf4

12.Be3 Re8 13.Nde2 (13.Qf3 Ne5 14.Qe2 (14.Qg3?! Bd6 15.f4 (15.Nxd5?? Nh5- +) 15...Nc6,,) 14...Bb4 ∞) 13...Be6 14.Nd4 (14.Nf4? d4 15.Bxe6 dxe3 16.Bb3 exf2+ 17.Kh1 Bb4!?μ) 14...Bc8 =

12...Bc5 13.Nce2 Re8 14.c3

14.Nb5 Re7 ∞

14...Bd7 15.Nb5 Ne5 ∞

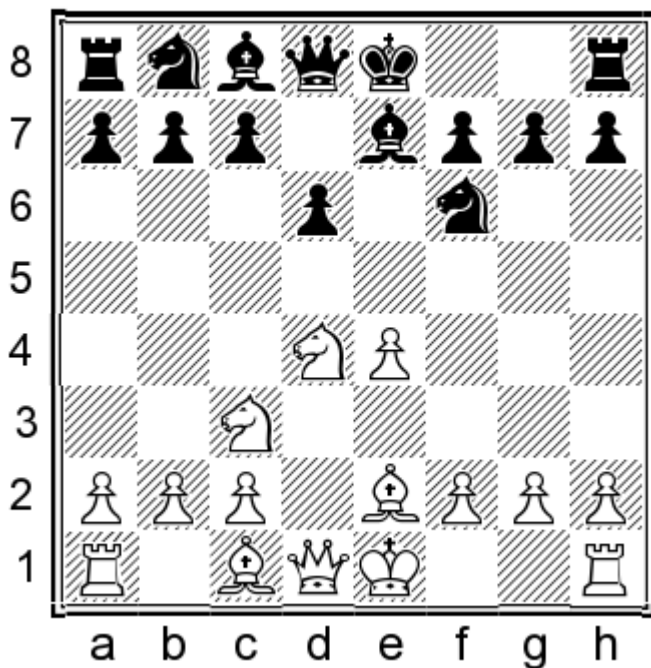


We reached a typical position with the isolated pawn. Black should avoid trading pieces because that would only make his d5-pawn weaker, and continue with the centralisation of his forces and preparing the attack on the enemy king. Also, he should try to exchange his isolani by pushing it to d4.

CHAPTER 3

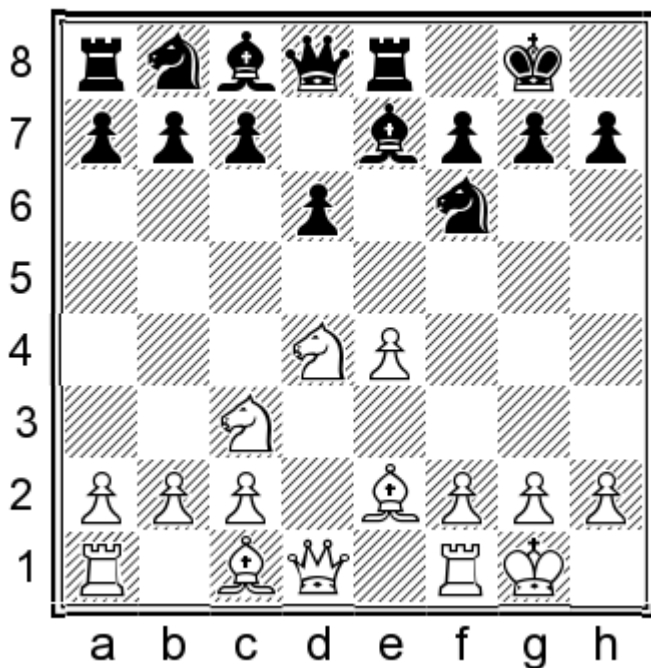
6.Be2

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 exd4 5.Nxd4 Be7 6.Be2



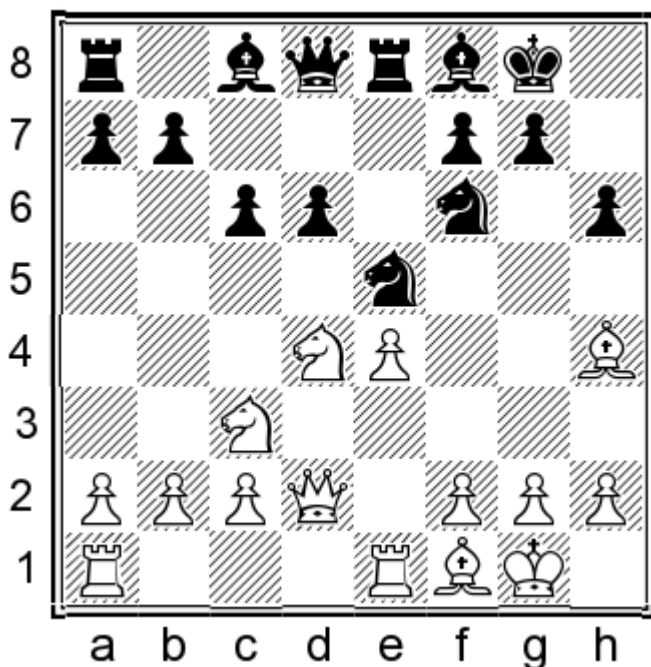
The most commonly played variation.

6...O-O 7.O-O Re8

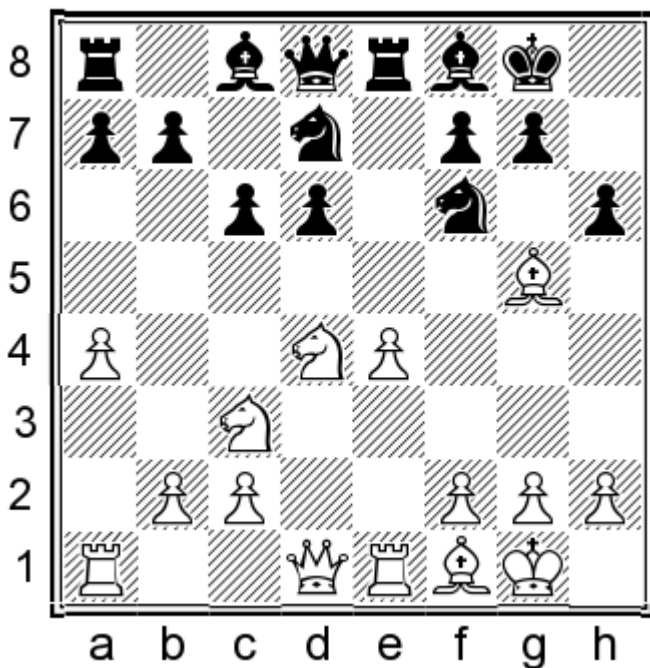


8.f4 This the most active continuation for White in this variation. For a long time the theory considered that White had a dangerous initiative. However, Black found ways to generate sufficient counterplay!

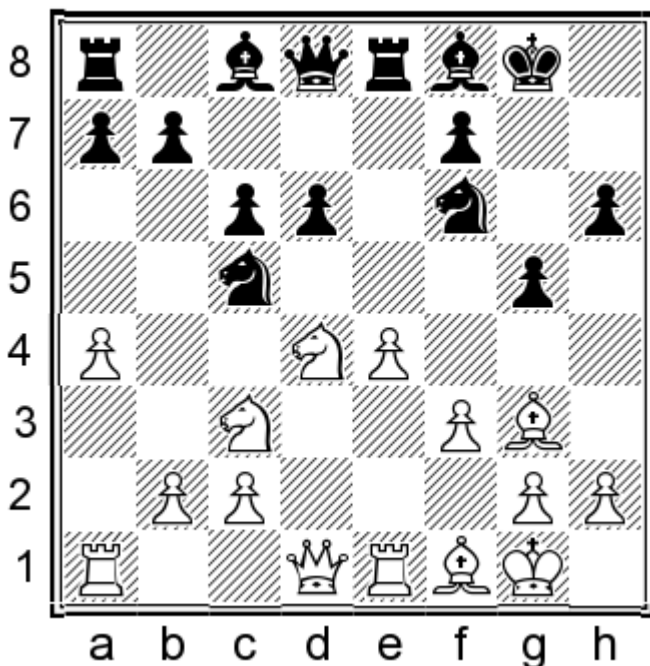
8.Re1 Bf8 9.Bf1 Nbd7 10.Bg5 c6 11.a4 (11.Qd2 h6 12.Bh4 Ne5



13.f4 (13.f3 b5 14.a3 (14.f4?! b4 15.Nd1 (15.fxe5?! dxe5!? 16.Bxf6TM
 (16.Nf3? Bc5+!? 17.Bf2 (17.Kh1 Qxd2 18.Nxd2 bxc3 19.bxc3 g5 20.Bg3
 Nh5μ) 17...Bxf2+ 18.Qxf2 (18.Kxf2?? Qb6+ 19.Kg3 Nh5+ 20.Kh4 bxc3
 21.bxc3 c5!- +) 18...bxc3 19.bxc3 Qa5μ) 16...Qxf6 17.Nb3 bxc3 18.Qxc3
 Be6³) 15...Ng6 16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.g3 d5!? 18.e5 Qd8∞) 14...Bd7 15.Rad1 a5f)
 13...Ng6 14.Bf2 Bd7 with the idea of 15...b5. 15.a4 d5 This is a typical motif.
 16.e5 (16.exd5 Rxe1 17.Rxe1 cxd5∞) 16...Ng4 17.Bg3 h5!?,) 11...h6

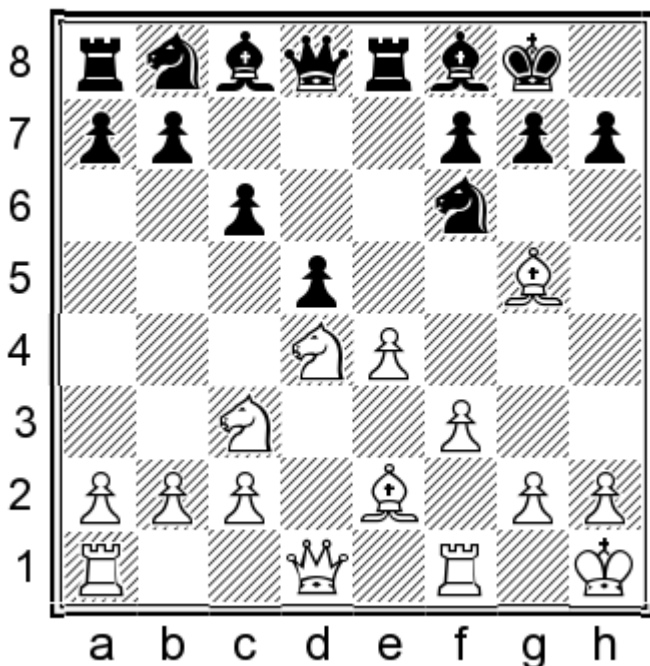


Here Black can proceed with a5, Ne5 and then h6, Ng6 with good play. His plan (h6, g5...) is quite typical for this type of position and grants Black interesting play! 12.Bh4 g5!? 13.Bg3 Nc5 Provoking the f3 move. (13...Ne5 14.h3 Bd7 (14...a5 15.f4 Ng6 16.f5 Ne5) 15.f4 Ng6 16.f5 Ne5) 14.f3



14...Ncd7!? The knight returns to the centre in order to control the play on the kingside. 15.Qd2 (15.f4 Nc5!? 16.fxg5 hxg5 17.Bd3 a5 ∞) 15...Nh5 16.Bf2 Ne5 17.Nd1 Qf6 18.Ne3 Nf4 ∞;

8.Bf4 Bf8 9.f3 d5 10.Kh1 (10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxd5 Qxd5 12.Kh1 (12.Bxc7 Bc5 13.c3 Nc6 14.Kh1 Nxd4 15.cxd4 Qxd4 16.Bb5 Re7 17.Bd8 (17.Qxd4 Bxd4 18.Rfd1 Rxc7 19.Rxd4 Be6 =) 17...Re5 =; 12.Nb5 Qc5+ 13.Kh1 Na6 14.c3 Bd7!? 15.Nd4 (15.Qxd7?! Rxe2³) 15...Qb6 16.Qb3 ∞) 12...c6 13.Bd3 Na6 (13...Nd7?? 14.Nb5! +-) 14.c3 (14.Bxa6 bxa6© Black has compensation for the weak pawns in view of his mighty bishop pair.) 14...Nc5 15.Bc2 a5 16.a4 Bd7 ∞) 10...c6!? (10...dxe4?! 11.fxe4f) 11.Bg5

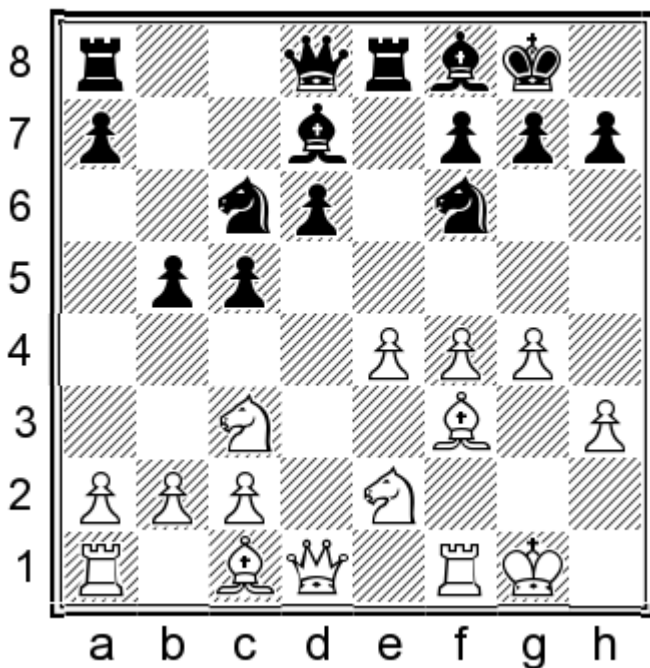


11...a6!? 12.exd5 cxd5 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Nxd5 Qd8 15.c4 Nc6 16.Nc2
 (16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.Nc3 Qh4© with the bishop pair compensation.) 16...Ne7
 17.Nce3 Nxd5 18.Nxd5 Be6© Black has a sufficient compensation.

8...Bf8 9.Bf3 c5 An anti-positional move but leading to highly concrete play!

10.Nb3

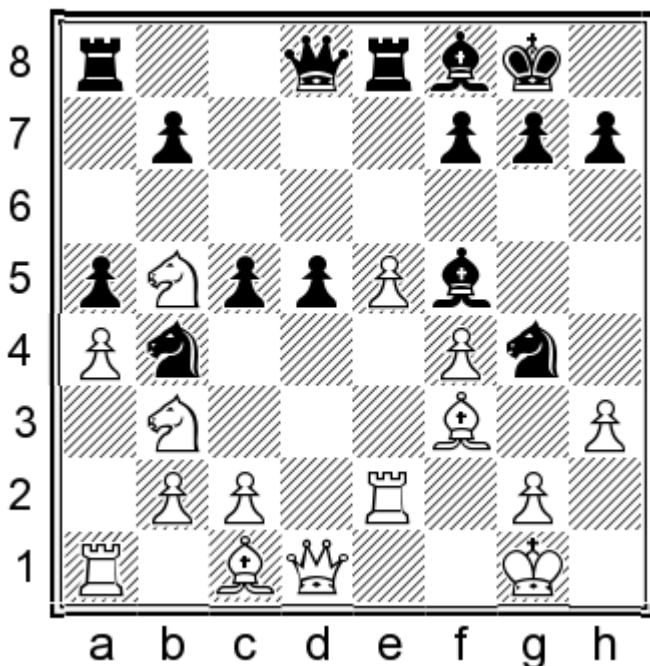
10.Nde2 Nc6 11.h3 Bd7 12.a4 (12.g4 b5!?)



13.g5 (13.Nxb5? Nxe4μ; 13.Ng3?! Nd4 14.Bg2 (14.g5 b4 15.Bg2 bxc3 16.bxc3 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Rxe4! 18.Nxe4 Nf5μ) 14...b4 15.Nb1 Ba4!? 16.b3 Bb5 17.Re1 d5³) 13...b4 14.gxf6 bxc3 15.fxc7 Bxc7 16.bxc3 (16.Nxc3? Bxh3 17.Bg2 Bd4+ 18.Kh2 Bxc2 19.Kxc2 Kh8-+) 16...Qh4→) 12...Nb4 13.Ng3 Bc6∞

10...Nc6 11.Re1 a5 12.a4 Nb4 13.Be3

13.Nb5 d5 14.e5 Bf5 15.Re2 Ng4!? 16.h3



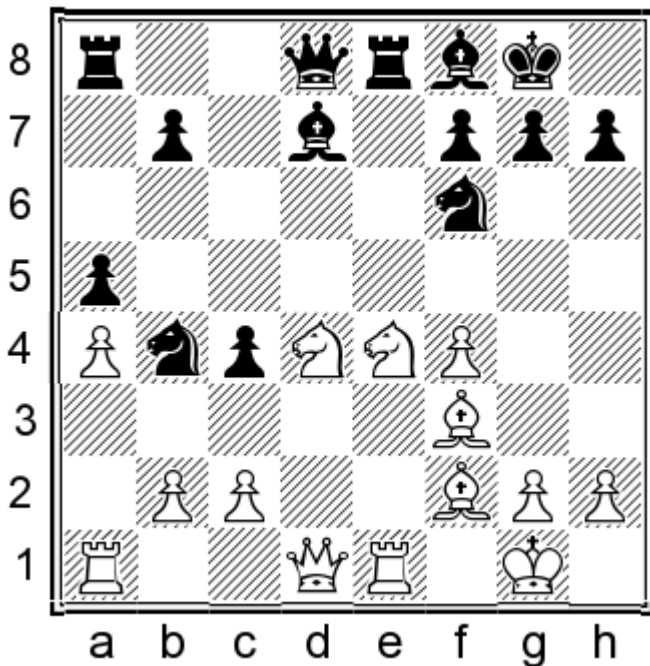
16...h5! 17.c3 (17.g3 Nh6 18.c3 Nd3 19.Bxh5 c4 20.N3d4 (20.g4? Be4 21.N3d4 Qh4- +) 20...Bxh3 ∞) 17...Nd3 18.hxg4 hxg4 19.Bxg4 Bxg4 20.Qxd3 c4 21.Qg3 Bxe2 22.N3d4 Bd3 23.f5©

13...d5 14.Bf2

14.Nxd5? Nfxd5 15.exd5 Bf5 16.Rc1 Qf6 17.Bxc5 (17.Qd2 b6μ) 17...Bxc2 18.Rxe8 Rxe8 19.Rxc2 Nxc2 20.Qxc2 Bxc5+ 21.Nxc5 (21.Qxc5 Qxb2- +) 21...Re1+ 22.Kf2 Qh4+ 23.g3 Qxh2+ 24.Bg2 Qg1+ 25.Kf3 Rc1³;

14.exd5?! c4!? 15.Nd4 Bc5 16.Bf2 (16.Ncb5 Bd7!? 17.Na3 Nfxd5 18.Bf2 Nxf4μ) 16...Rxe1+ 17.Qxe1 Bxd4 18.Bxd4 Nxc2 19.Bxf6 Qb6+!? 20.Qf2 Qxf2+ 21.Kxf2 Nxa1μ

14...c4 15.Nd4 dxe4 16.Nxe4 Bd7 ∞

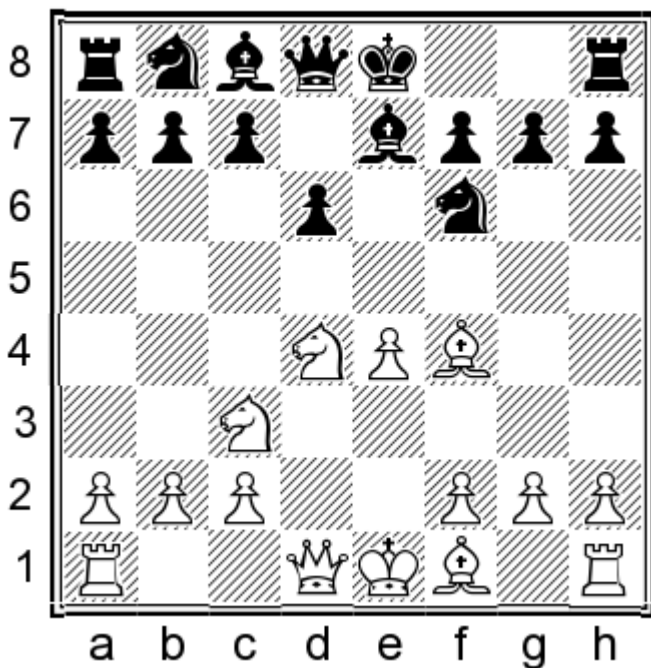


Even though all the pieces are still on the board quite soon the endgame may arise. I evaluate this position as dynamically balanced.

CHAPTER 4

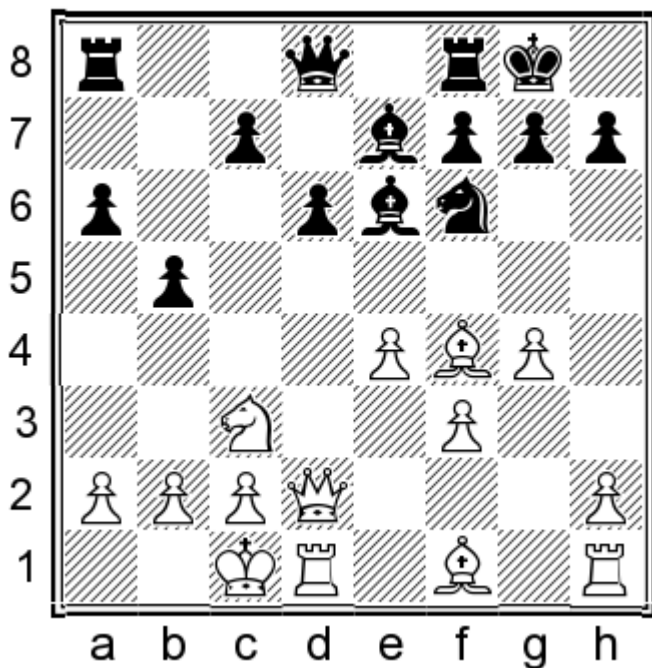
6.Bf4

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 exd4 5.Nxd4 Be7 6.Bf4

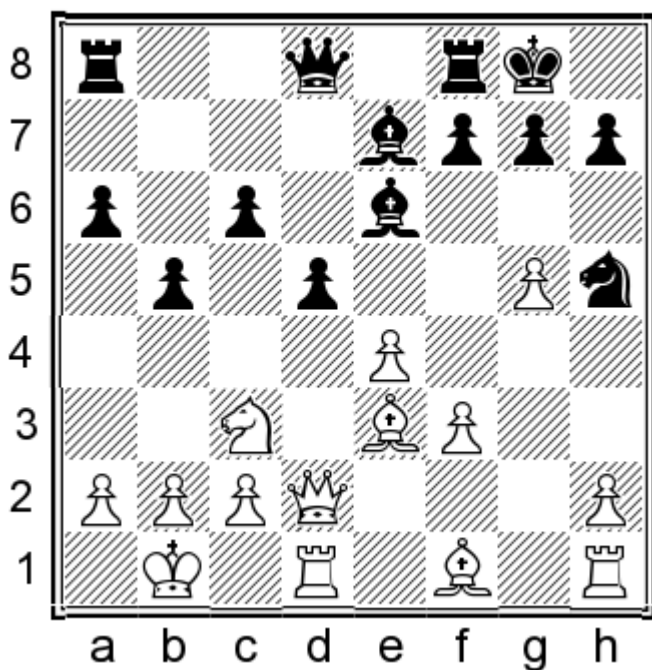


This variation is nowadays considered as the most dangerous for Black. White is playing in a highly concrete manner, and attacks the black king's castle right away after castling long.

6...O-O 7.Qd2 Nc6 8.O-O-O Nxd4 9.Qxd4 Be6 10.f3 a6 11.g4 b5 12.h4
12.Qd2

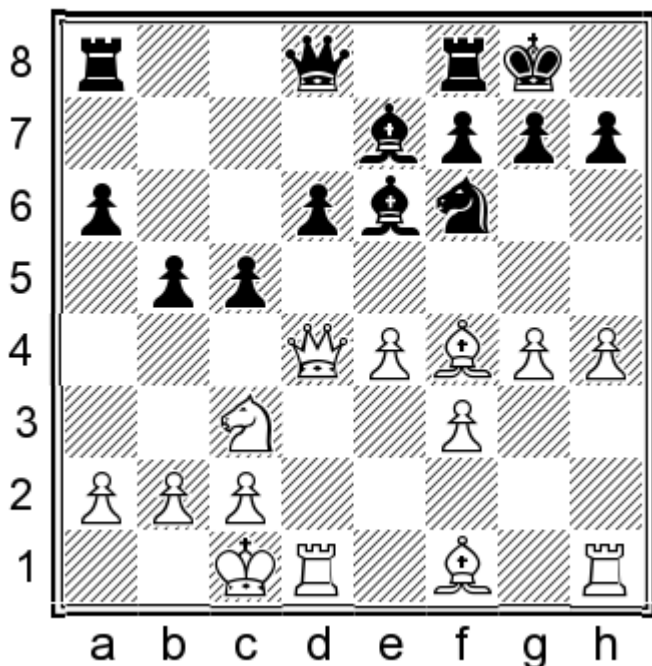


used to be regarded as an excellent move preventing Black's c5 push.
 However, Black found the answer! 12...c6! 13.Bxd6 (13.Kb1 d5 14.g5 Nh5 15.Be3



15...d4! Pawn sacrifice for the activity! (15...b4? 16.Nxd5! cxd5 17.exd5 Bf5 18.d6 Rc8 19.dxe7 Qxe7 20.Bd3 ± The h5-knight is a rather weak piece.) 16.Qxd4 Qa5!? 17.Qb6™ Qxb6 18.Bxb6 Bxg5 ∞) 13...Bxd6 14.Qxd6 Qa5 15.a3 Rfd8 16.Qc5 (16.Qxc6 b4- +) 16...Nd7f Black has more than enough compensation for the sacrificed pawn.

12...c5



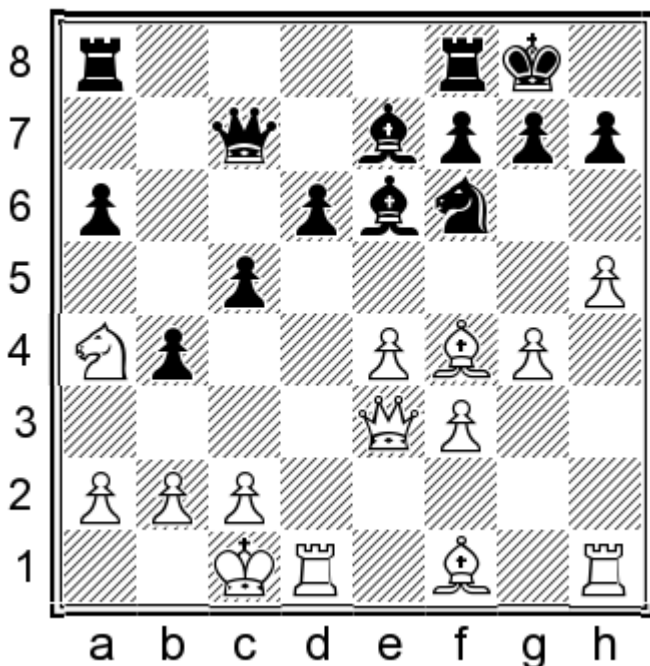
13.Qe3! An excellent move posing some serious problems for Black! The high-level computer games brought this move and game plan to light. The main idea is to threaten e5-pawn advance because the rook controls the d-file. The white queen is defending the 3rd rank.

The most commonly played move is 13.Qd2. However, Black obtains good play without much trouble: 13...b4 (13...c4) 14.Nd5 (14.Na4 Qa5 15.b3 c4,,) 14...Nxd5 15.exd5 Bd7 16.h5 (16.g5 Bf5 17.Bd3 Qd7 18.h5 Rfe8 19.h6 g6 20.Rhe1 Qa4!? 21.Bc4 (21.Bxf5 Qxa2 22.Qd3 gxf5) 21...Bf8 ∞) 16...h6!? 17.Rg1 Bb5 18.g5 Bxg5 19.Bxg5 hxc5 20.Rxc5 Qf6 21.Bh3 Kh8 22.Rdgl Rg8 23.Rf5 Qe7 ∞

13...b4 14.Na4 Black gets decent counterplay due to the weak position of the white knight.

14.Nd5 Nxd5 15.exd5 Bd7 ∞

14...Qc7!? 15.h5



15...Nd7!? The black knight is going to the e5-square indirectly defending the weak d6-pawn, or to the c5-square forcing the exchange for the white knight and allowing his a-pawn to run and attack the white king. Furthermore, Black is planning pawn break with c4-c3, a5-a4 if the white knight vanishes from a4. Also, he is planning to defend the king with f6, Ne5-f7. The positions ensuing after 15...Nd7 are very interesting since the engines prefer White, while I believe that Black has a quite decent counterplay.

Also interesting is 15...Qc6 Black is intending to win a tempo by attacking the white a4-knight and execute a central break by means of d5 thus liquidating the weak d-pawn. 16.b3 d5 17.g5 (17.exd5 Nxd5 18.Qe4 Rac8 19.h6 g5 20.Be5 Nf4 21.Qxc6 (21.Qe3? c4μ) 21...Rxc6 ∞) 17...d4 18.Qd2 Nd7 19.Kb1 Rac8 20.Nb2 Nb6,,

16.g5

16.b3 Rfc8 17.Rh2 c4 18.Kb1 a5 19.h6 Nc5 20.Nxc5 Qxc5 21.Qxc5 Rxc5 22.bxc4 (22.hxg7? cxb3 23.cxb3 a4!→) 22...Bxc4 23.hxg7 Bxf1 24.Rxf1 a4 ∞

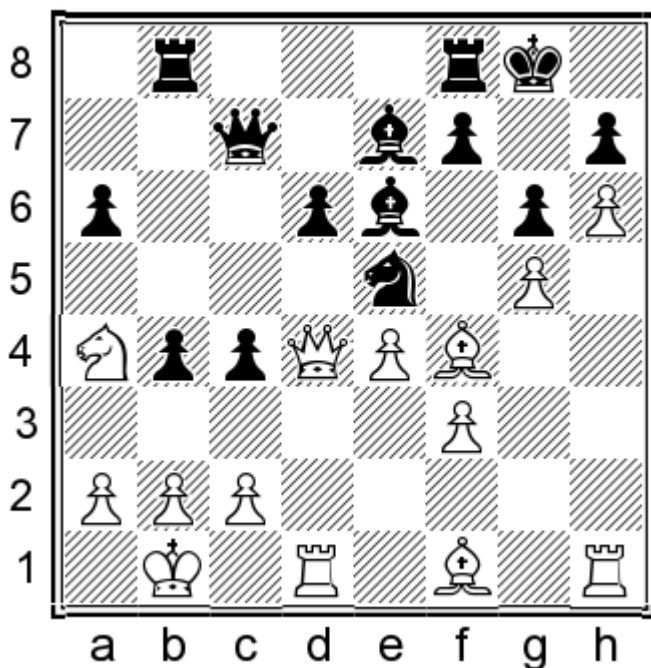
16...c4 17.Kb1

17.h6 g6 18.Qd4 Ne5 19.Nb6?! Rab8 20.Nd5 Bxd5 21.Qxd5 Rb5³

17...Rab8 18.h6 Permanently weakening the position of the black king.

18.g6?! A typical "Sicilian" assault is of no good here because Black can simply ignore it. 18...b3! 19.gxh7+ (19.h6? fxg6 20.hxg7 bxa2+ 21.Ka1 Rf7-+) 19...Kh8 20.h6 bxc2+ 21.Kxc2 g6³

18...g6 19.Qd4 Ne5 ∞



The position is very complex. Neither side has a concrete way to attack the enemy king.

ROGERS' REMINISCENCES

The Past is a Foreign Country

By GM Ian Rogers



The Torero Thief

Biel 1985 and 1986

My situation was looking bad. I could see that the two police interrogators did not believe in my innocence, given that I had admitted helping to carry the valuable Torero out of the playing venue and into the getaway car.

I understood that Switzerland probably had the nicest jails in the world, but that did not make a possible stay at the Biel watch-house any more attractive...

BIEL (open I), VII 1985

(92 players, 9 rounds)

1–3. Rogers, A. Miles, Gheorghiu 7, 4–6. Dizdarević, Barlov, Arapović 6½, 7–18. Hort, Striković, Ostermeyer, Stohl, H. Meyer, Nemet, Murey, Ambrož, Cămpora, Zichichi, Druckenthane, D. Paunović 6, 19–27. Baumhus, Schandorff, Damljanović, Costa, Neamțu, Dresen, Ilijin, Scholz, Fernández García 5½, etc.

Ian Rogers

- **Country:** Australia
- **Born:** 1960
- **Rating:** 2545
- **Peak rating:** 2618
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 1985



1985 The Biel Chess Festivals of the 1980s were full of excitement and innovation. Not content with bringing up to 1,000 participants to the small northwestern Swiss town for a variety of GM, open, women's, senior, junior, rapid and blitz tournaments, the organisers tried new ideas almost every year: from offering a Swatch - one of Biel's most celebrated exports - to the player that have travelled the furthest, to devising a seating pattern which enabled hundreds of blitz players to complete their 18 player round robin preliminaries almost without arbiter intervention.

The fun continued - in fact stepped up a notch - after the games were over.

Every balmy summer evening the mezzanine level of the Biel Kongresshaus, ostensibly an analysis area, would be filled with blitz contests, many for stakes.

Some hustlers would be content with taking small sums from players - like me - who thought they were better at blitz than they were. However the true blitz experts - like Eric Lobron, Josef Klinger and multiple speed kings from Jugoslavija - would play late into the night for serious money, rumoured to be as high as 1,000 Swiss francs per game.

In 1985, to liven up the daytime hours as well, the main organiser Hans Suri decided to encourage adventurous play by introducing a new Torero Prize. (Previously Biel had offered 1st, 2nd and 3rd brilliancy prizes, decided after the tournament was concluded.)

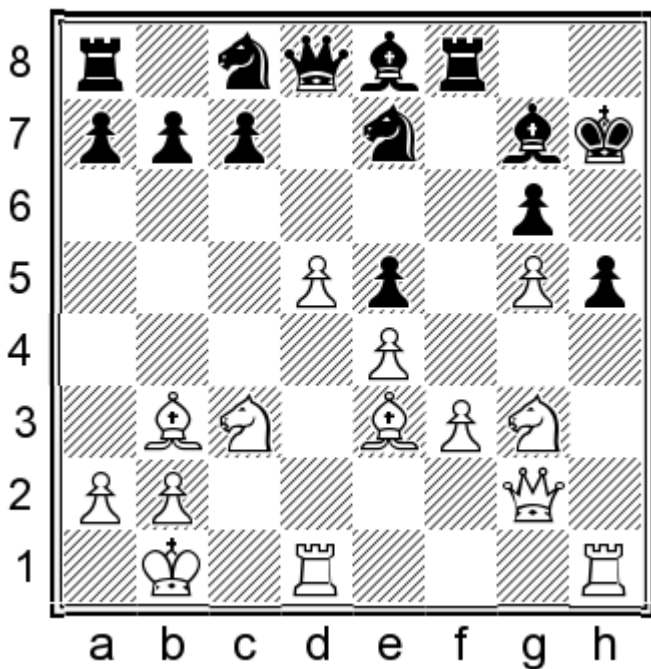
A Torero Prize was to be awarded for the most exciting game of each day, from any of the classical tournaments, with both the winner and the loser enjoying a gourmet meal at the Kongresshaus Restaurant. (The winner of the Torero game of the day would also pocket 100 Swiss francs.)

The idea worked better than Suri could have been imagined, the incentive of a fine meal inspiring many more spectacular games than usual. (Torero dinners happened every three nights, and six person banquets were a wonderful change from shared pizzas - in expensive Switzerland all many non-hustlers could afford.)

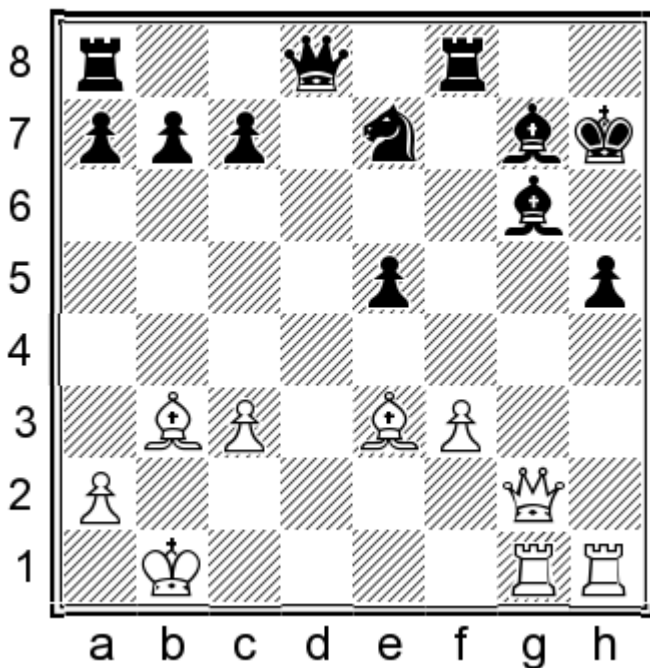
Even better from the organisers' point of view, every day the bulletin editor had a wide choice of Torero Prize entries to publish. (Previously, most of the best games from the various open tournaments were lost to history.)

I recall being certain of a Torero prize when I played the following queen sacrifice in the third round of the Masters Open, only to learn that Tony Miles had chosen the same day to uncork something even more beautiful...

Rogers, Ian (2510) - Arapovic, Vitomir (2405)
Biel (open), 1985



Black is almost ready to blockade on d6 but finds himself one tempo short...
23.d6! Nxd6 24.Rdg1! Nxe4!? 25.Nxh5! Nxc3+ 26.bxc3 gxh5 27.g6+ Bxg6+

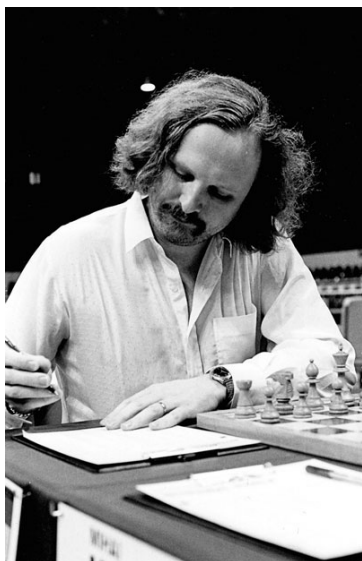


With check! Has White miscalculated?

28.Qxg6+!! 1-0

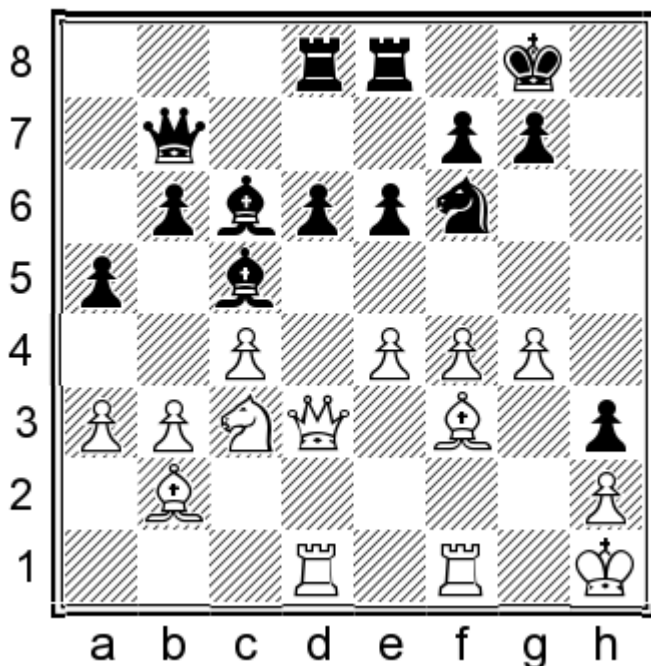
Grooten, Herman (2345) - Miles, Anthony (2560)
Biel (open), 1985

Anthony Miles; Photo by Cathy Rogers



White has just lashed out with 21.g4, giving

Miles a chance for a spectacular pawn break - which seems at first sight to be impossible.

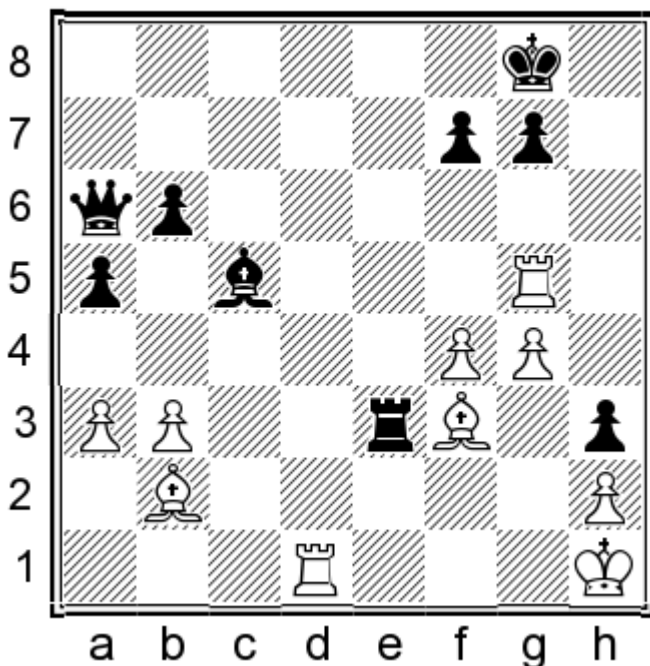


21...d5!! 22.cxd5 exd5 23.exd5 Nxd5 24.Nxd5 Rxd5!! 25.Qxd5

The best chance, since 25.Bxd5 Rd8! 26.Bxc6 Qxc6+ 27.Qf3 Qxf3+ 28.Rxf3 Rxd1+ and mate is Miles' key idea.

25.Qc3 loses similarly to 25...Rd4!! 26.Rxd4 Bxf3+! 27.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 28.Rxf3 Re1+, again mating on the back rank.

25...Bxd5 26.Rxd5 Qa6! 27.Rfd1 Re3 28.Rg5



28...Qd3!! 29.Rxg7+ Kf8 0-1

The next day Miles, playing Black again, came out and picked up another gourmet meal!

E14

Dizdarevic, Emir (2425) - Miles, Anthony (2560)

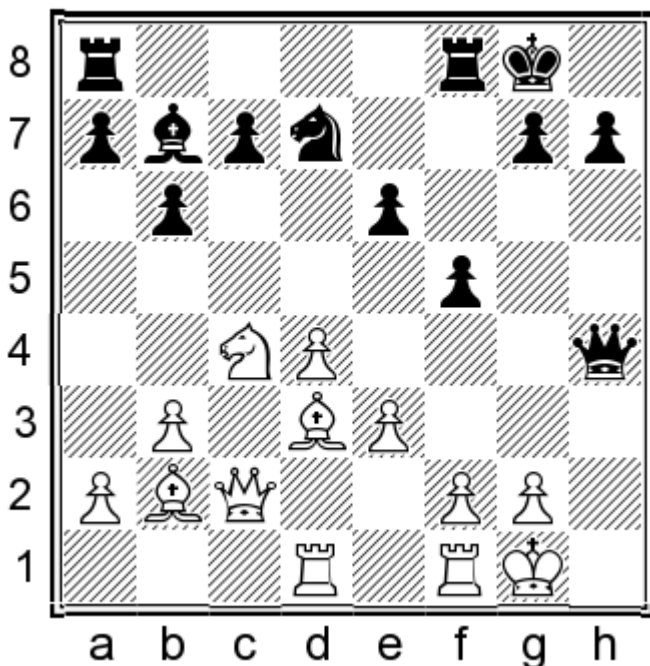
Biel (open), 1985

1.c4 b6 2.d4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bb7 5.Bd3 d5 6.b3 Bd6 7.O-O O-O 8.Bb2 Nbd7 9.Nbd2 Ne4 10.Qc2 f5 11.Rad1? A natural move, which also happens to lose by force!

After 11.cxd5 exd5 12.Ne5 c5 13.Bb5, the game is just beginning.

11...Nxd2! 12.Nxd2 Any other recapture allows Black to capture on c4 and then f3.

12...dxc4! 13.Nxc4 Bxh2+! 14.Kxh2 Qh4+ 15.Kg1



Now what? 15...Bg2 allows 16.f3! when Black can defend but Miles has seen further. **15...Bf3!!** The bishop is invulnerable in view of ...Rf6 and the threat of 16...Qg4 forces White to block the second rank with 16.Be2 or 16.Nd2, after which White's queen cannot come to the rescue along the second rank as in the previous note.

16.Nd2 Bxg2! 17.f3 Rf6! 18.Nc4 Bh3!

18...Bh3 19.Kh1 Rg6 20.Qh2 Bg2+ 21.Kg1 Bxf3+- +

0-1

Curiously, the only Torero winner in 1985 to be included in Chess Informant came one round later.

A46

Barlov, Dragan (2430) - Ostermeyer, Peter (2485)

Biel (open) 40/(80), 1985

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 c5 4.e3 b6?! 5.d5! ± exd5 6.Nc3 Bb7 7.Nxd5 Be7N 8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.c3 Nc6 10.Qc2! Ne5?

10...O-O 11.Qf5 Be7 12.Rd1 d6 13.Qf4 ±

11.Nxe5 Bxd5

11...Bxe5? 12.Qe4 +- -

12.O-O-O Be6

12...Bxe5 13.Rxd5 Bf6 14.Bb5 +-

13.Nxd7! Bxd7 14.Qe4+ Be7 15.Rxd7! Qxd7

15...Kxd7 16.Bb5+ Kc7 17.Rd1 Bd6™ 18.Qc6+ Kb8 19.Rxd6 Qc7 20.Rd7! +-

16.Qxa8+ Bd8 17.Qe4+ Be7 18.Bd3! +- g6 19.Qa8+ Bd8 20.Rd1 O-O

21.Bxg6 Qc7 22.Bc2 Bf6 23.Qf3 Bg7 24.Qh3 Rd8 25.Qxh7+ Kf8 26.Rxd8+

Qxd8 27.Qf5 Qc7 28.g3 b5 29.Qd5 a5 30.a4 b4 31.c4 Qb6 32.b3 Bc3

33.Kd1 1-0

The most incredible Torero winner was played in the seventh round, a game which deserves to stand alongside its thematic forerunner Adolf Anderssen - Max Lange, Breslau 1859, and its successor Judit Polgar - Ferenc Berkes, Budapest 2003.

B01

Sixtensson, Mikael (2245) - West, Guy (2270)

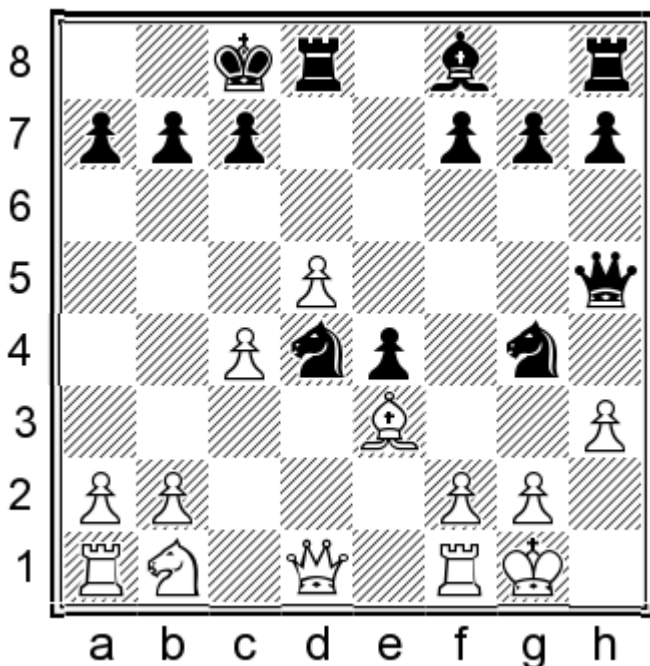
Biel (open), 1985

Guy West, Biel 1985; Photo by Cathy Rogers



1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.Nf3 Bg4
5.Be2 O-O-O 6.c4 Qh5 7.O-O Nf6 8.Be3?! e5! 9.d5? e4! 10.Nd4 Nxd4

11.Bxg4+ Nxg4 12.h3 White is ready to recapture the piece, but now the fun begins...



12...Nf3+! 13.gxf3

13.Kh1 loses to 13...Qe5

13...Qxh3! 14.fgx4 Bd6 15.Re1 Bh2+ 16.Kh1 Rd6! 17.Qc2

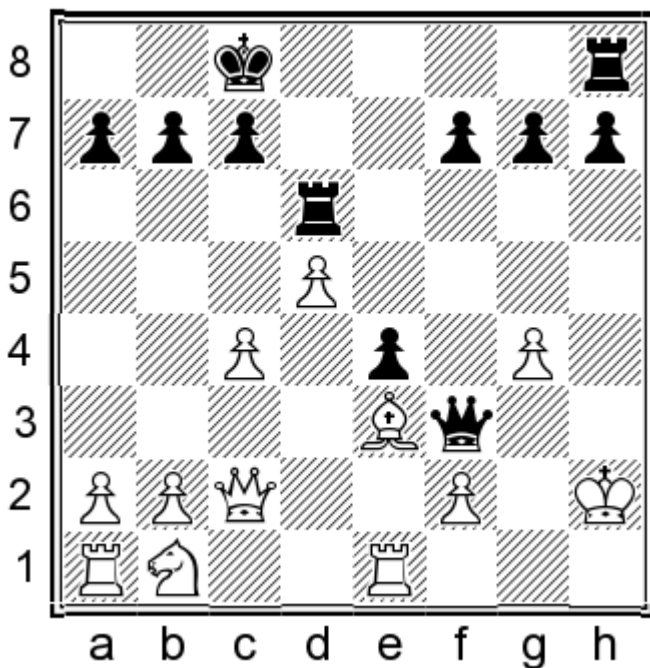
The point behind Black's last move is that 17.Nc3 walks into 17...Rh6!

18.Bxh6 Bg3+!, forcing mate because f2 is no longer protected.

17...Qf3+!

17...Bf4+?! would gain nothing because after 18.Kg1 Rh6? 19.Qxe4, Black has no mate.

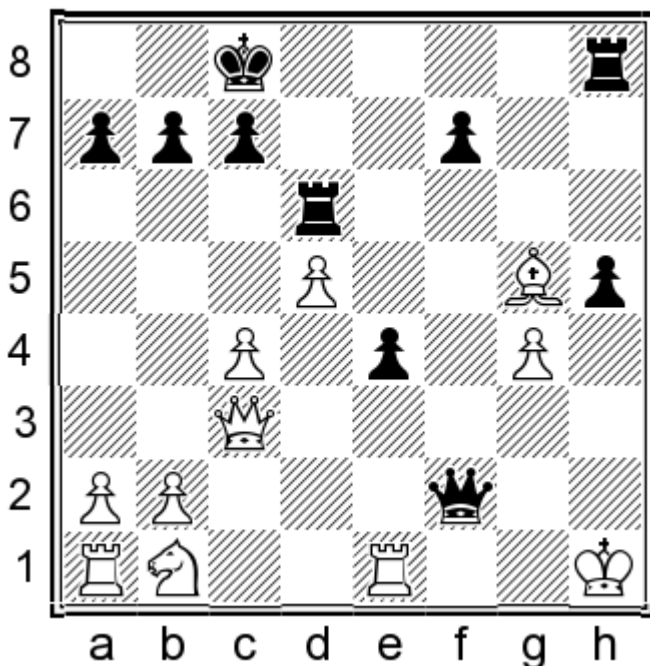
18.Kxh2



Now 18...h5 19.g5 keeps the h file closed but West has a better idea...

18...g5!! 19.Bxg5 h5! 20.Qc3 The best try.

20...Qxf2+ 21.Kh1



21...f6!! A study-like interference move decides the game because after 22.Bf6 hg4 23.Bh8 Rh6! is mate next move.

22.Qe3 hxg4+

22...hxg4+ White resigned because 23.Bh6 Rxh6+ 24.Qxh6 Qxe1+ 25.Kg2 Qe2+ 26.Kg1 Qxb2 leaves Black far ahead on material - not a bad achievement after so many sacrifices!

0-1

Ian and Cathy, Biel 1985 after last round; Photographer unknown



The Torero prize was a godsend for West as he was one of many impecunious International Masters on the tournament circuit for whom every franc was gold. The evening prior to his Torero game, West had eaten with a group of friends at one of Biel's many Italian restaurants.

When they ordered a meal he ordered an empty plate, ready to accept donations. The table's waiter, impressed by the sheer number of donated pizza slices that West managed to consume, asked West if he would like a dessert: "It's free, so long as you finish it."

"Great", said West, only becoming a little suspicious when the waiter added, with a glint in his eye, "I will make it for you myself"

A few minutes later the waiter returned with a large bowl containing at least 20 scoops of gelati. The waiter sat by West, ostensibly for a friendly conversation but also to prevent him from offering any gelati to others at the table. The waiter was impressed: after great effort the score was West 1, Gelati 0. However on the walk back to the playing hall West, looking rather unwell, excused himself to detour back to his hotel room for half an hour. He was not seen until the next afternoon.

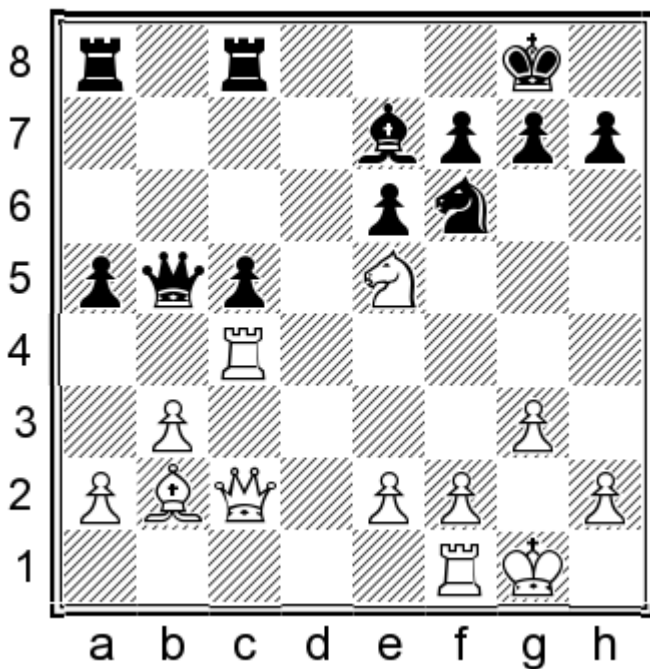
The 1985 event was also memorable for me: I secured my final GM norm and won a Torero Prize - but mostly for spending my first night as a Grandmaster sleeping on a bus stop bench with my wife Cathy. (We took a train from Biel to Zuerich after the final round only to discover that the hotel room we had booked, with a warning we would be late, had been given away to someone else. With no other affordable options available, we decided to return to Zuerich railway station to play scrabble until the first train left for Martigny, but the station had been locked up overnight. So a bus stop outside the station became our bed for the night until the train station reopened at 5am.)

Next July Cathy and I - along with many hundreds of others - were back in Biel.

This time players and spectators who entered the Kongresshaus were confronted with the imposing figure of a toreador prominently placed in the foyer; a mannequin adorned with genuine matador clothes which we were later told were worth more than 1,500 Swiss francs.

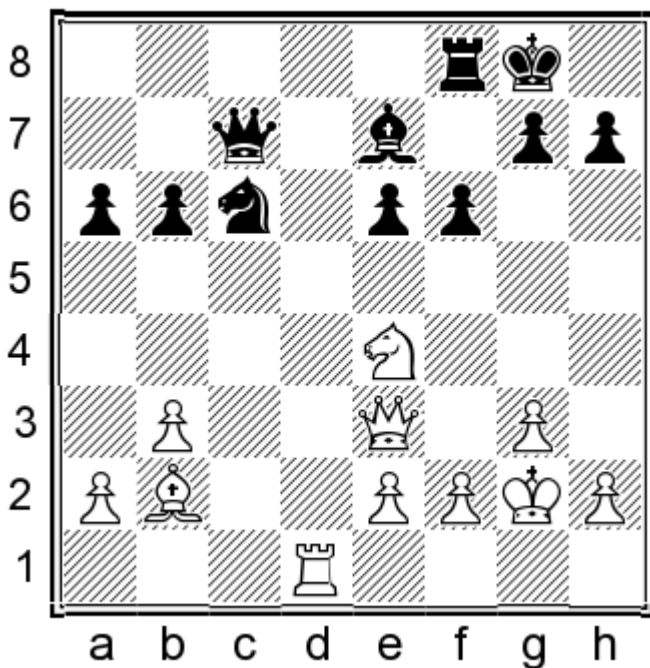
With a real Torero there to inspire players, the battles for the daily brilliancy prize were fierce, as the following extracts from Torero winners show.

Hickl, Joerg (2370) - Straat, Evert Jan (2235)
Biel (open), 1986



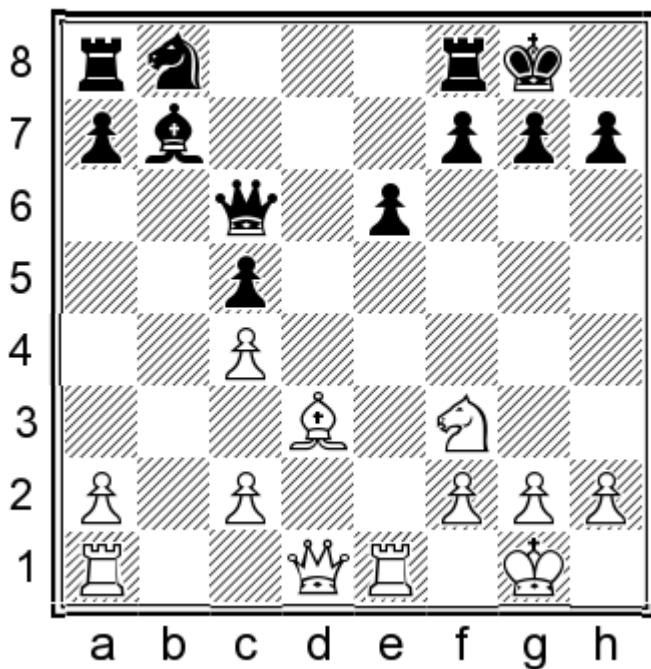
19.Rh4! g6 20.Nxf7!! Kxf7 21.Bxf6 Kxf6 22.Qc3+ e5 23.Rxh7 Qc6 24.Qc4!
 Qe6 25.Qh4+ g5 26.Qh6+ 1-0

Csom, Istvan (2505) - Kindermann, Stefan (2485)
 Biel (juniors), 1986

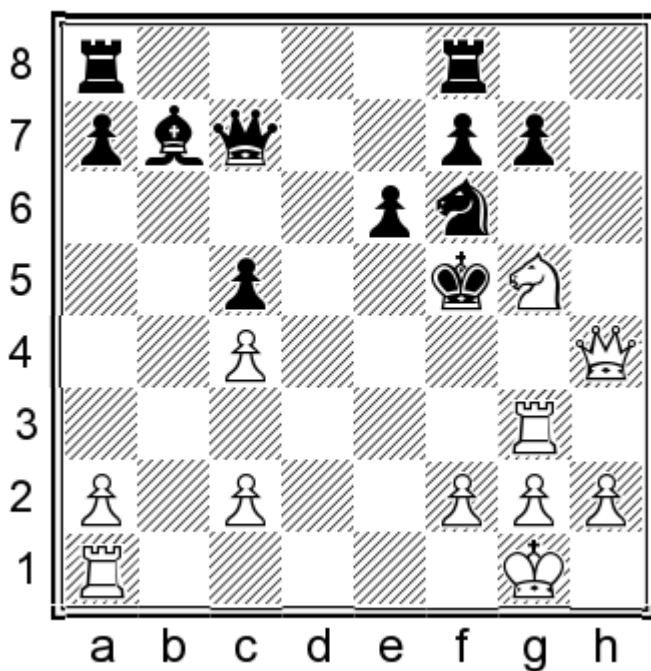


22.Rc1! Rc8 23.Nxf6+!! gxf6 24.Qxe6+ Kg7 25.Rc4! h5 26.Qf5! Qd8
 27.Qg5+ Kf8 28.Qxh5 Qd7 29.Rg4 Qe8 30.Qh8+ Kf7 31.Rg7+ Ke6
 32.Qh3+ f5 33.e4 Qf8 34.exf5+ Kd5 35.Qg4 Ne5 36.Qd4+ 1-0

Reeh, Oliver (2265) - Hoffmann, Alexander
 Biel (open), 1986

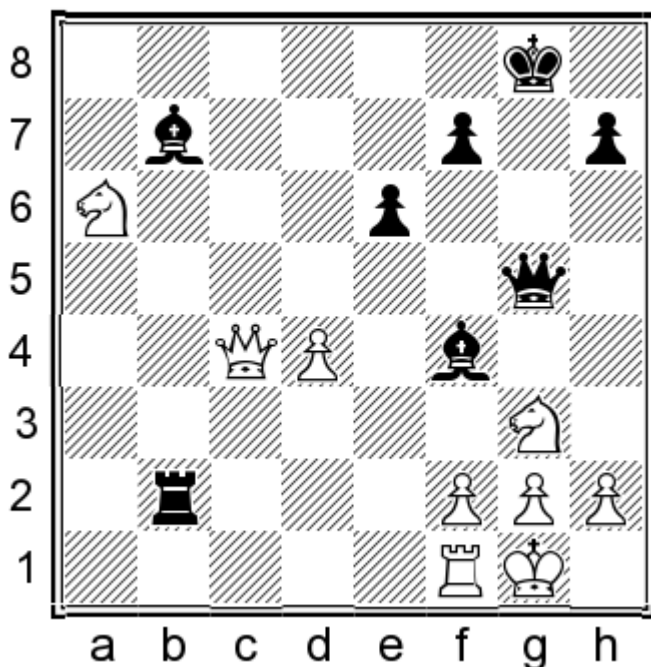


14.Be4! Qc7 15.Bxh7+! Kxh7 16.Ng5+ Kh6 17.Qg4 Nd7 18.Re3! Nf6
19.Qh4+ Kg6 20.Rg3 Kf5



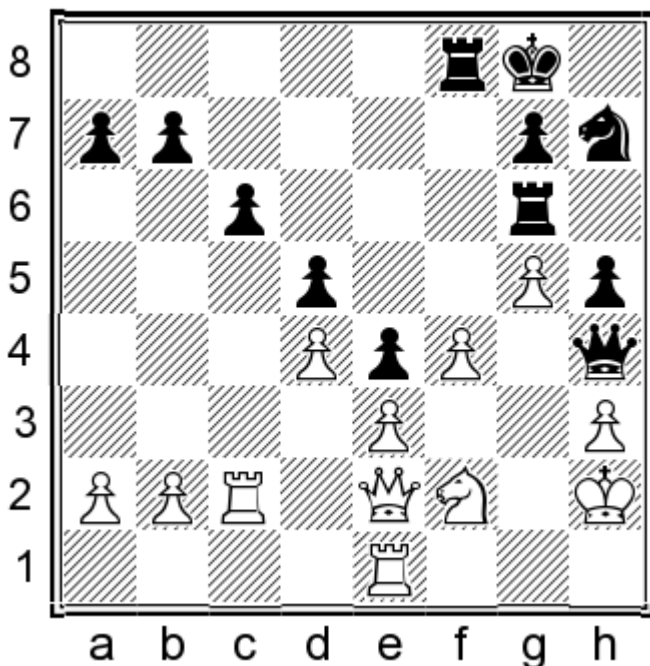
21.Re1! Rh8 22.Nf3!! Ne4 23.Qg4+ Kf6 24.Rxe4! Ke7 25.Rxe6+! fxe6
26.Qxg7+ Kd6 27.Qe5+ Kc6 28.Qxe6+ Qd6 29.Ne5+ 1-0

Suba, Mihai (2545) - Campora, Daniel (2515)
Biel (open), 1986



33...Bxg3! 34.hxg3 Qxg3!! 35.fxg3 Rxg2+ 36.Kh1 Rc2+ 37.Kg1 Rxc4
38.Nc5 Bd5 39.Rf4 Rc2 40.Rf2 Rc1+ 41.Rf1 Rc3! 42.Kf2 Rf3+ 43.Kg2
Rf4+! 44.Kg1 Rxd4 and Black won. 0-1

Summermatter, Daniel - Kaenel, Hansjuerg (2230)
Biel (open), 1986

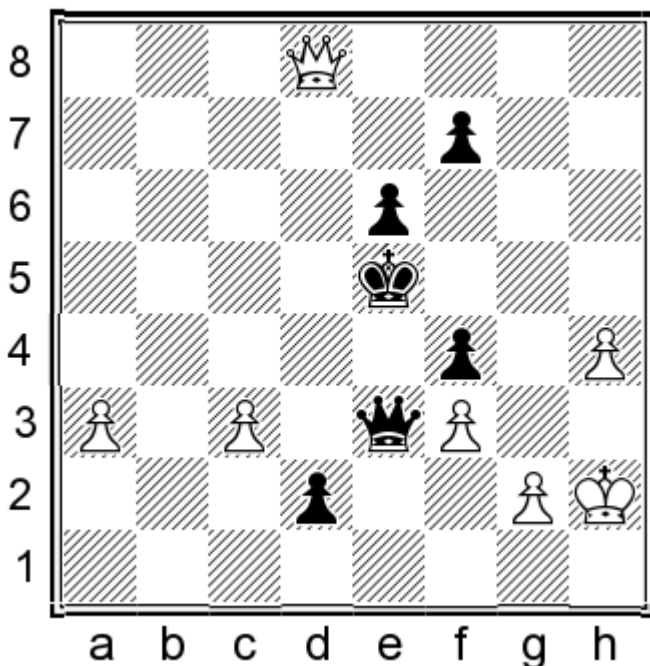


23...Rxc5! 24.fxc5 Nxc5 25.Rh1 Rxf2+! 26.Qxf2 Qxh3+ 27.Kg1 Nf3+
 28.Qxf3 Qxf3 29.Rf2 Qxe3 30.Rxh5 Qe1+ 31.Kg2 e3 32.Rf3 Qd2+ 33.Kg3
 e2 0-1

Having been invited to the Grandmaster group, and keen to avoid a repeat of my poor performance in 1984, my thoughts were far away from the Torero that year. In a field with Polugaevsky, Korchnoi, Huebner, Miles, Hort and Nunn - an average pre-inflation rating over 2530! - I was just hoping to achieve a 50% score.

That task became immeasurably easier thanks to the following infamous game.

Rogers, Ian (2515) - Kortschnoj, Viktor (2650)
Biel, 1986



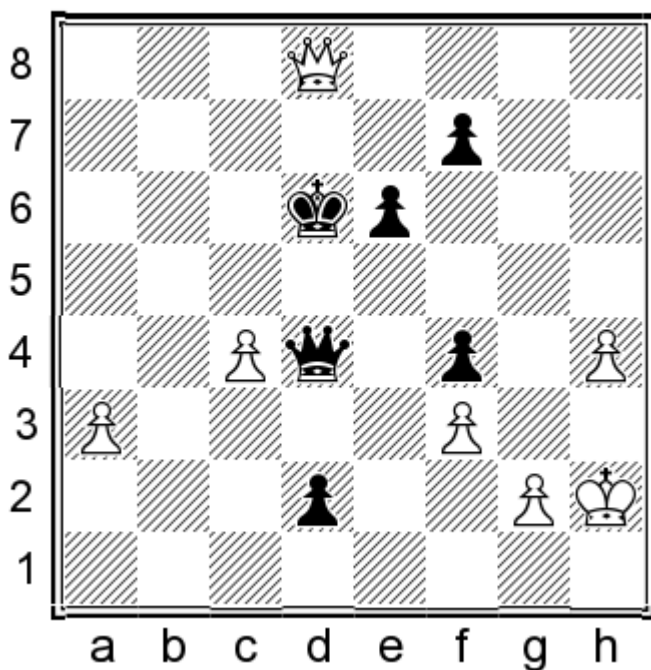
*Korchnoi vs Rogers, Biel 1986; Photo by
Cathy Rogers*



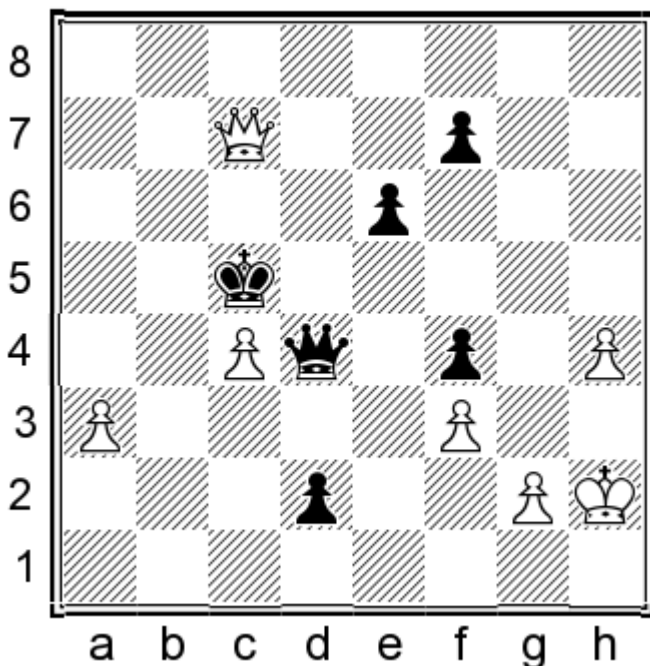
In this position the game was adjourned for the third time. (For younger readers, in the era before computers, players were given a break for food and/or sleep after a certain number of hours and resumed the game at a later time.) During overnight analysis I came to the tentative conclusion that, thanks to an improbable, one piece counter-attack over the past dozen moves, White probably had enough counterplay to draw. Korchnoi, however, was sure he was winning. (He had beaten me in our two previous meetings.)

The game was resumed at 9am on a Friday morning, the two of us arriving to conduct the game's last rites in a near-empty Biel Kongresshaus. I had raced away from breakfast with Cathy and Darryl Johansen at the Hotel Posta, my final comment being: "If I can keep checking, I'll draw. If he escapes the checks, he wins."

My sealed move emerged from the adjournment envelope as **82.Qa5+** and within a minute we had bashed out the moves **82...Kd6 83.c4! Qd4** (played with a confident air) **84.Qd8+**



84...Kc5?? 85.Qc7# 1-0



Korchnoi smiled at his own stupidity and confounded his reputation as a poor loser by acting as the perfect gentleman and analysing the adjourned position with me, soon concluding that it had, after all, been just a draw as 83...Ke7 can be answered by 84.Qc7 Kf6 85.Qa5!

Less than 15 minutes after I had left, I returned to the Hotel Posta to find Cathy and Johansen still at breakfast. "He avoided the checks," I said mournfully, pulling the longest face I could manage in the circumstances. However the truth soon came out. The Hotel Posta's bread roll and jam breakfast - which on alternate days would change to jam and bread roll - never tasted so sweet.

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
1	POLUGAEVSKIJ	g	2575	■	½	½	½	1	½	1	½	½	0	1	1	7	1-2
2	LOBRON	g	2515	½	■	½	½	0	1	½	½	½	1	1	1	7	1-2
3	CEBALO	g	2475	½	½	■	½	½	0	½	½	1	1	1	½	6½	3-4
4	IIORT	g	2545	½	½	½	■	½	½	½	½	1	0	1	1	6½	3-4
5	A. GREENFELD	m	2510	0	1	½	½	■	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	6	5-7
6	A. MILES	g	2570	½	0	1	½	½	■	½	½	½	½	1	½	6	5-7
7	NUNN	g	2590	0	½	½	½	½	½	■	½	½	½	1	1	6	5-7
8	HÜBNER	g	2620	½	½	½	½	½	½	■	½	0	½	1	1	5½	8-9
9	ROGERS	g	2515	½	½	0	0	½	½	½	½	■	1	½	1	5½	8-9
10	KORTCI NOI	g	2650	1	0	0	1	0	½	½	1	0	■	0	1	5	10
11	KLINGER	m	2430	0	0	0	0	½	0	0	½	½	1	■	1	3½	11
12	HUG	m	2455	0	0	½	0	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	■	1½	12

With one round to play in the GM tournaments, and all open events having concluded, Cathy and I dropped into the Kongresshaus after our evening meal. I was feeling pleased with my win that day, which took me to my desired 50% score and which I was soon to discover was worth 100 francs and a free meal - the Torero Prize for that day.

C04

Rogers, Ian (2515) - Hug, Werner (2455)

Biel 42/(327), 1986

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nc6 4.Ngf3 Nf6 5.e5 Nd7 6.Nb3 Be7 7.Bb5 a5 8.a4 Na7 9.Bd3 b6 10.O-ON

10.Bd2

10...O-O?!

¹10...c5 11.c4 Bb7

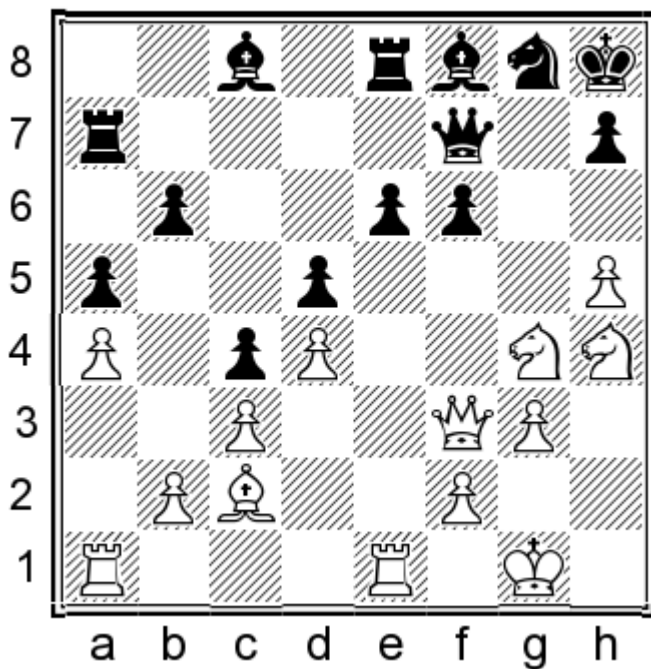
11.c3 c5 12.Bc2 Re8 13.Re1 Nc6 14.h4! Nf8

14...Bxh4? 15.Nxh4 Qxh4 16.Re3 Nf8 17.Rh3 Qd8 18.Bxh7+!

15.h5 c4!? 16.Nbd2 f5!? 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Nf1 Ra7 19.Bh6 Bd6 20.Ne3 Kh8 21.g3! Qd7?!

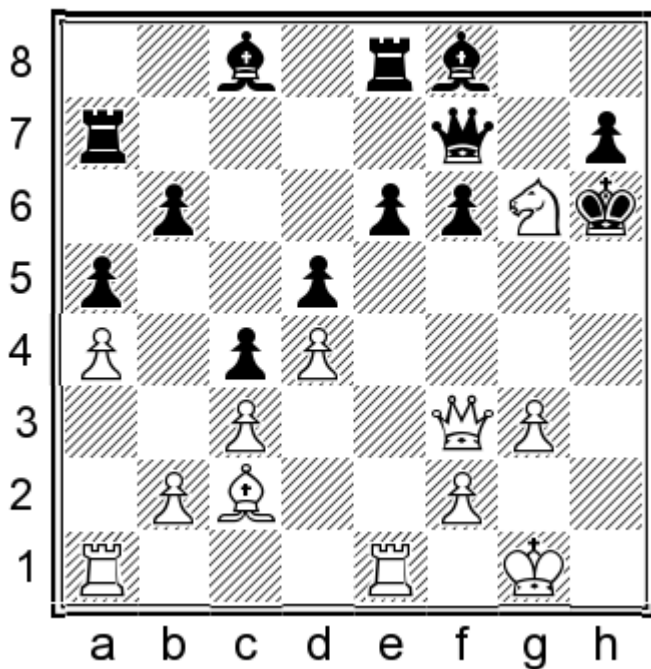
¹21...Ne7 22.Ng2 Ng8 23.Bf4

22.Nh4 Qf7 23.Qf3 ± Ne7 24.Ng4 Ng8 25.Bxf8 Bxf8?!



26.Ng6+! hxg6

26...Kg7 27.h6+! Nxh6 28.Nxh6 Kxh6



29.Nh8!!

27.hxg6 Qe7

27...Qg7 28.Kg2!

28.Qh1+ Nh6 29.Nxh6 Bxh6 30.Qxh6+ Kg8 31.Kg2 Qg7 32.Rh1 e5

33.Qe3! Rae7 34.Rh7 Qf8 35.g7! Rxg7 36.Qh6 1-0

Upon entering the almost abandoned foyer - most players had started heading home - I saw a man struggling to pack up and remove the Torero mannequin and I offered to lend a hand. We carried the mannequin to the man's car, placed it in the boot, he thanked me, and I returned to watch the adjourned games from the two Grandmaster tournaments.

The next morning, dropping into the Kongresshaus after breakfast, Suri greeted me on arrival at the venue with an embarrassed look. "The Torero went missing last night. I know it can't be true but someone said they saw you carrying it away."

"Yes, it was me," I replied. "I was helping a man pack it up."

Suri's expression turned from embarrassment, to surprise, to worry. "We have reported the Torero is being stolen. Would you mind going to the police station to help them with their enquiries?"

So on the morning of Swiss National Day I found myself in an interrogation room, accompanied by Swiss friend Beat Zueger as an interpreter, facing two young police officers.

"What did the man you were "helping" look like?"

"European, a bit older than me."

"What sort of car did you put it into?"

"I am not sure - maybe an Opel?!"

"What sort of Opel?"

"There is more than one type of Opel?"

I gained the impression that the officers decided I was being evasive - a sure sign of guilt.

Zueger had the same feeling and started to talk directly to the policemen in Swiss German. I later learned that he had said: "Look, the guy is from Australia. Maybe they don't have Opels. (True. I.R.) There is no way he wants to carry a Torero all the way back home. (True. I.R.)"

After a few more minutes of conversation with Zueger, the police made it clear that they had decided they were dealing with a moron, not a thief. I was

told I would not be charged and allowed to go, and to please be in touch if I could remember something that was actually useful.

By 11am I was back in my hotel room preparing for Black against Alon Greenfeld. A gruelling 69 move draw followed, then a Torero banquet and, as the sun set, Cathy and I headed down to Biel's famous lake to watch the fireworks display celebrating Swiss National Day.

To my relief, that evening the Torero was found, unharmed, apparently trying to make a call to Spain from a telephone box near the Kongresshaus.

"Probably a student prank for Swiss National Day," was the organisers' conclusion, but I was not so sure...

On all my subsequent visits to the Biel Chess Festival, until his death in 2013, Hans Suri would jokingly call me the Torero thief, finding the joke even funnier when I picked up Torero prizes in 1987 and 1992.

Postscript

Almost exactly 30 years later, I found out who had taken the Torero, and why.

Travelling on the Chess Train - a Czech train which tours around Central Europe for 5 days, with a rapid tournament in the mornings and sightseeing at a new city each evening - I was approached by a German amateur player, who shall remain nameless.

"I have an apology to make to you," he said.

For some reason my mind immediately turned to the stolen Torero. "For getting me questioned by the Biel police?", I responded.

"What?? I didn't know that! But yes, it is about the stolen Torero. I didn't do it but I know who did."

I looked at him expectantly and he sighed and continued.

"On the last day in Biel, a friend was to drive down from Germany to visit me. I boasted that I had decided to play a brilliancy in the last round and win the Torero Prize so that we could eat together at the Kongresshaus restaurant.

Of course I didn't win the prize, but we ate at the Kongresshaus anyway. During the meal my friend said: "You shall have your Torero anyway!" With some help from you, he carried the Torero mannequin to his car, an Opel, outside the Kongresshaus and returned to the meal."

"What have you done?" I said to him. "We have to return it". "We can't do that," he replied. "They will catch us. Just take it back to Germany and display it at your house." I absolutely refused.

The next day we devised our plan to return the Torero and not be caught. My friend placed the mannequin in a telephone box and then ran into the foyer of the Kongresshaus to tell the organisers that he had found the lost Torero. So we were happy and the organisers were happy, but maybe it wasn't so good for you!?"

FROM THE CHESS INFORMANT ARCHIVES



By Douglas Griffin

Lev Polugaevsky v. Alexander Zaitsev, 4th match-game, 36th USSR Championship Playoff, Vladimir 1969

*Lev Polugaevsky, pictured in play at the
Amsterdam IBM tournament, July 1970
(Photo: R. Mieremet, Anefo, via
www.nationaalarchief.nl).*



The 36th USSR Championship began in the capital of the Kazakh USSR, Alma-Ata (today's Almaty) on 30th December 1968 and lasted until 1st February 1969. In this 19-round all-play-all tournament, two players - grandmasters Lev Polugaevsky and Alexander Zaitsev - shared 1st place. As was customary at the time, a match of six games was organised to determine the winner. This event took place in the ancient city of Vladimir, c. 180km ENE of Moscow, in Russia's historic "Golden Ring", in March.

Alexander Zaitsev, who hailed from Vladivostok in the Soviet Far East, was recognised as a great natural talent, renowned for the speed of his play. In October 1971, at the age of only 36, he was destined to die following an operation to correct a defect in one of his legs. By the late 1960s, Lev Polugaevsky (b. Mogilev, 1934) was established as one of the leading players in the Soviet Union, and indeed at the end of 1969 he again tied for first in the

next championship of the country, this time with Tigran Petrosian.

The match began on March 11th, in the fine setting of the Green Hall of Vladimir's House of Officers (ul. Bolshaya Moskovskaya, 33). After a quiet draw in the first game, Zaitsev showed how dangerous an opponent he was by winning the next with the black pieces. A draw followed in the third game, after Polugaevsky missed a clear win in the adjourned session. The fourth game was the best of the match - a fine example of controlled positional pressure by the Moscow grandmaster.

Polugaevsky annotated this encounter (and, indeed, all of the games from Vladimir) for volume 7 of *Chess Informant*, and later devoted several pages to it in the chapter *Nakanunie (On the Eve)* of the book *Rozhdenie varianta (The Birth of a Variation)*, published in the USSR in 1977. In this section of that magnificent work, he deals with preparation for decisive encounters. He reveals that, in contrast to his previous experience, when he had tended to treat such duels as "the game of his life", he approached the fourth game in a determined but relaxed frame of mind. In choosing the Catalan system, he was directed by the observation that his opponent was highly skilled in defending against direct attacks, but much less confident when it came to holding slightly inferior positions.

E08

Polugaevsky, Lev - Zaitsev, Alexander
USSR (ch-m/4-playoff) 7/448, 1969

POLUGAJEVSKI—ZAJCEV A.

Vladimir (4)

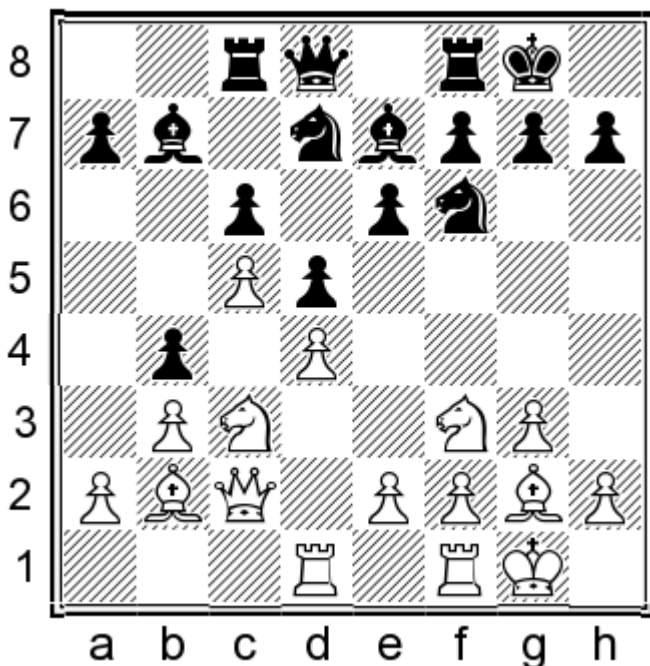
1. c4 e6 2. g3 d5 3. ♖g2 ♗f6 4. ♗f3
 ♗e7 5. 0-0 0-0 6. d4 c6 7. ♖c2
 ♗bd7 8. b3 b6 9. ♗b2 ♗b7 10. ♗e3
 ♖c8 11. ♖ad1 b5!? [11... ♖c7; 11...
 c5] 12. c5! b4 13. ♗b1 [13. ♗a4 ♗a6=]
 a5 14. ♗bd2 ♖a8 15. e4 ♗e4 16. ♗e4
 de4 17. ♖e4 ♗f6 [17... a4!?] 18.
 ♖c2 ♗d5 19. ♗e5 ♗f6 [19... a4
 20. ba4 ♖a5 21. ♗d5 cd5 22. ♗d7
 ♖fe8 23. ♗b6 ♖a7 24. a3!±] 20. ♗c4
 [20. ♗e4!? g6 21. b4 a4 22. ♗g2±]
 ♗a6 21. ♖fe1 ♗b5? [21... ♖c7]
 22. ♗d6 ♖b8 23. ♗c1! ♗a6 [23...
 ♗c3 24. a4! ♗d1 25. ♖d1 ♗a6 26.
 ♗c6±] 24. ♗d5 ed5 [24... cd5! 25.
 ♗f4 ♖d8 26. h4!±] 25. ♗f4 ♖d8±
 26. ♗e5 ♗c8 27. ♖d3 ♗e6 28. ♖de3
 ♗e7 29. ♗f5 [29. f4 g6! 30. f5 ♗d6
 31. ♗d6 ♗f5 32. ♖f2 ♗e4±] ♗f6 [29...
 ♗f5 30. ♖f5 ♖a7 31. ♗g7!+—]
 30. h4! ♗e5 31. ♖e5 ♗f5 32. ♖f5
 a4 33. ♗g2 ab3 34. ab3 ♖a3 35. ♖e3
 ♖a7 36. h5 h6 37. ♗h3 ♖a8 38. ♖f3
 ♖c8 39. ♗g2 ♖a2 40. ♖e7 ♗d2 41.
 ♖f4! ♖b8 42. ♖3e5 ♖a2 [42... ♖d3
 43. ♖d7! ♖b3 44. ♖f5! ♖b5 45.
 ♖f7+—] 43. ♖e3 ♖a8 44. ♖e2 ♖c8
 45. ♖f3 [45. g4+—] ♖a1 46. ♖e2
 ♖c1 [46... ♖a8 47. g4 ♖b8 48. ♖e3
 ♗h7 49. g5 hg5 50. h6! gh6 51. ♖d3
 ♗g8 52. ♖5e6+—; 50... ♖c8 51.
 ♖g5 gh6 52. ♖d3 ♗h8 53. ♖g3+—;
 46... ♖a6 47. ♖a6 ♖a6 48. ♖b7+—]
 47. ♖e8 ♖d7 48. ♖5e7 ♖e8 49. ♖e8
 ♗h7 50. ♖d3 f5 51. ♖e3 ♖c3 [51...
 ♖f7 52. ♖e7 ♖f6 53. ♖c7 ♖c2 54.
 ♖e8 f4 55. ♖c6 ♖f2 56. ♗g1+—;
 53... ♖c3 54. ♖e8 ♖g5 55. ♖c6+—;
 53... ♖g5 54. ♖c6 ♖c3 55. ♖e8+—]
 52. ♖e5 f4 53. ♖b8 f3 54. ♗h2 1:0
 [Polugaevski]

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.O-O
 O-O 6.d4 c6 7.Qc2 Nbd7 8.b3 b6 9.Bb2

Subsequently, the alternative 9.Rd1 came to be preferred here, with the point that after 9...Bb7 10.Nc3 Rc8 11.e4 the bishop can potentially find use on the diagonal c1-h6; e.g. 11...dxe4 12.Nxe4 Nxe4 13.Qxe4 Qc7 (13...b5?! 14.Qc2! c5 15.Ng5! Polugaevsky, Lev 2625 - Keres, Paul 2580, Petropolis (izt) 1973 see *Chess Informant* 16/511) 14.Bf4! Bd6 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.c5!, as in Stein, Leonid - Liberzon, Vladimir, 38th USSR Championship, Riga 1970, and a number of subsequent games.

9...Bb7 10.Nc3 Rc8 11.Rad1 b5 This move had previously been tried in the 4th game of the Petrosian, Tigran V v. Spassky, Boris, World Championship match (Moscow (m/4) 1966) see *Chess Informant* 1/354.

12.c5 b4



13.Nb1

Here Petrosian had preferred 13.Na4, but the knight proved to be out of play on this square.

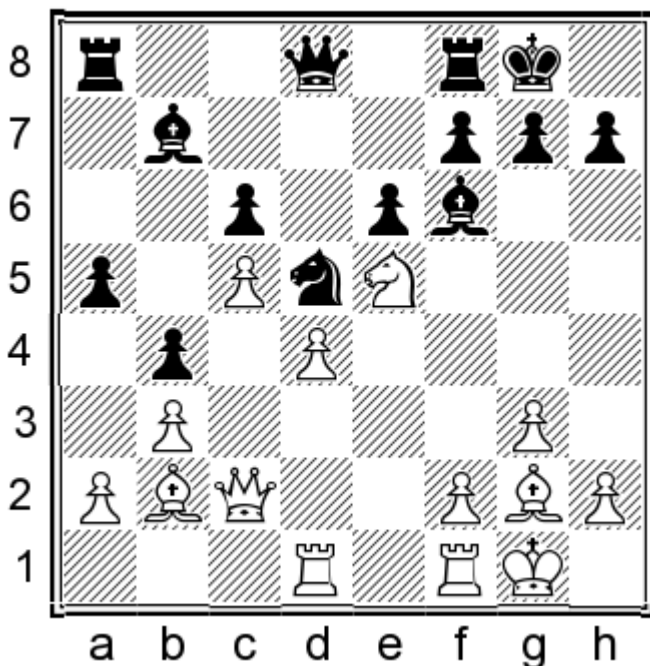
13...a5

In the game Polugaevsky, Lev - Ivkov, Borislav, Buesum 1969 - played a couple of months after the present encounter - Black varied with 13...Ba6; this was subsequently employed by Petrosian in the 5th game of the above-mentioned playoff match Polugaevsky, Lev - Petrosian, Tigran V see *Chess Informant* 9/444, where it appears with annotations by the ex-World Champion.

14.Nbd2 Ra8 15.e4 Nxe4 16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.Qxe4 Nf6 Too direct.

Polugaevsky suggests that the immediate 17...a4!? may have been worth preferring.

18.Qc2 Nd5 19.Ne5 Bf6



Now in the case of 19...a4 Black would have had to reckon with 20.bxa4 Qa5 21.Bxd5 cxd5 22.Nd7 Rfe8 23.Nb6 Ra7, and Black does not have time to play ...Bb7-c6 or ...Be7-d8 in view of 24.a3!.

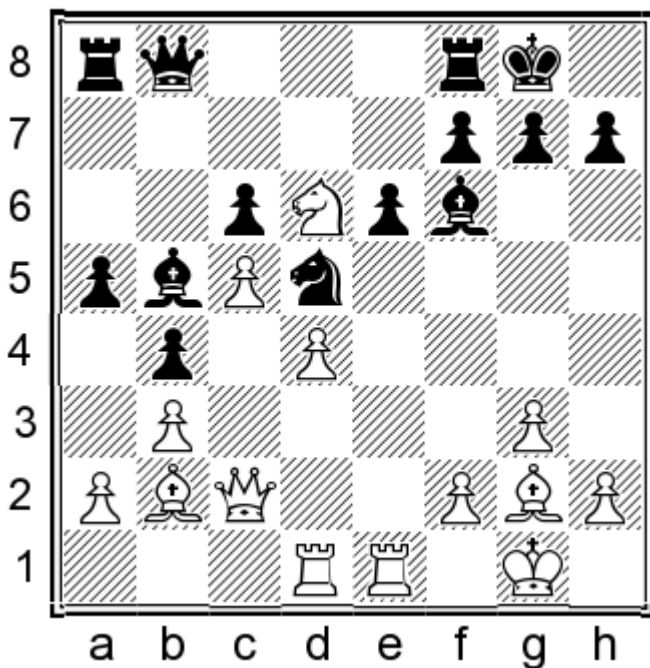
20.Nc4 Here Polugaevsky describes this as "continuing to play in a positional key".

During the game he could not convince himself to go in for the alternative 20.Be4 g6 21.h4 a4 22.Kg2 a3 23.Ba1, since on a1 the bishop would be excluded from play.

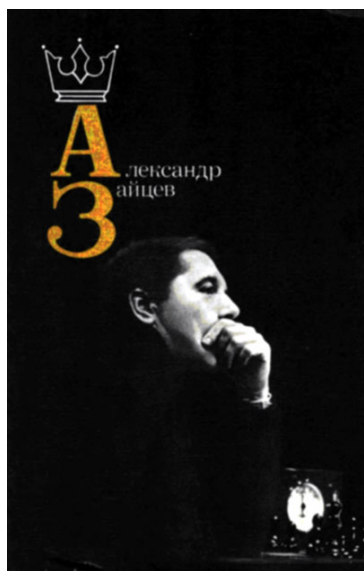
20...Ba6 21.Rfe1 Bb5? This move achieves nothing.

21...Qc7 was preferable.

22.Nd6 Qb8



The "Black Series" book on Aleksander Zaitsev, published in the USSR in 1986.



While here it was better to admit the error on the previous move and return with 22...Ba6.

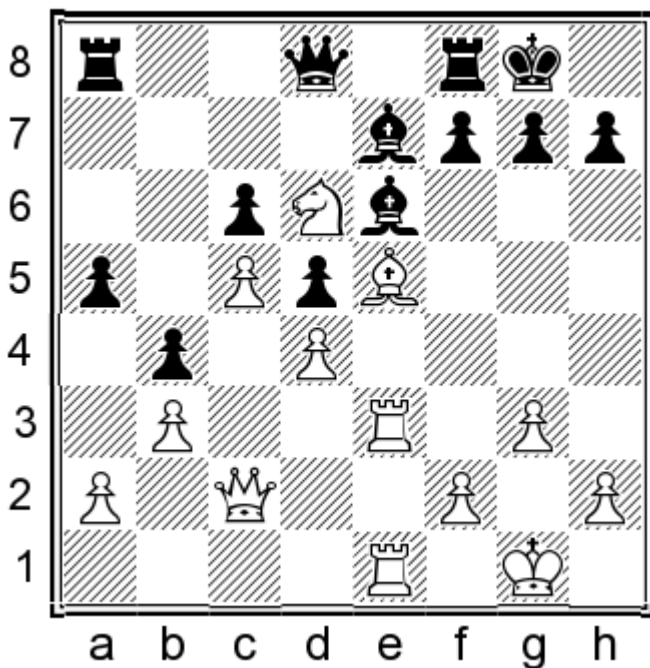
23.Bc1! White re-directs the bishop, exploiting the fact that on 23...Nc3 he can continue 24.a4! Nd1 25.Rd1 Ba6 26.Bc6, with an overwhelming position.

23...Ba6 24.Bxd5 exd5

"The lesser evil was 24...cxd5, although here too after 25.Bf4 Qd8 26.h4 followed by Qd2 White creates strong pressure on the king's flank."

25.Bf4 Qd8 26.Be5 Bc8 27.Rd3! Preparing the doubling of rooks on the e-file.

27...Be6 28.Rde3 Be7



29.Nf5 An interesting moment.

Apparently, in the press bureau of the match, 29.f4 was suggested here, when after 29...Bxd6 30.Bxd6 Re8 31.f5 White achieves a winning position.

However, Black can play more strongly: 29...g6!, and on 30.f5 ? 30...Bd6 31.Bd6 Bf5 32.Qf2 Be4 with compensation for the exchange. In his later notes, Polugaevsky points out that White can also consider 31.fe6, then 31...Be5 32.Re5, but after 32...Qe7 White of course stands better ? but by how much?!

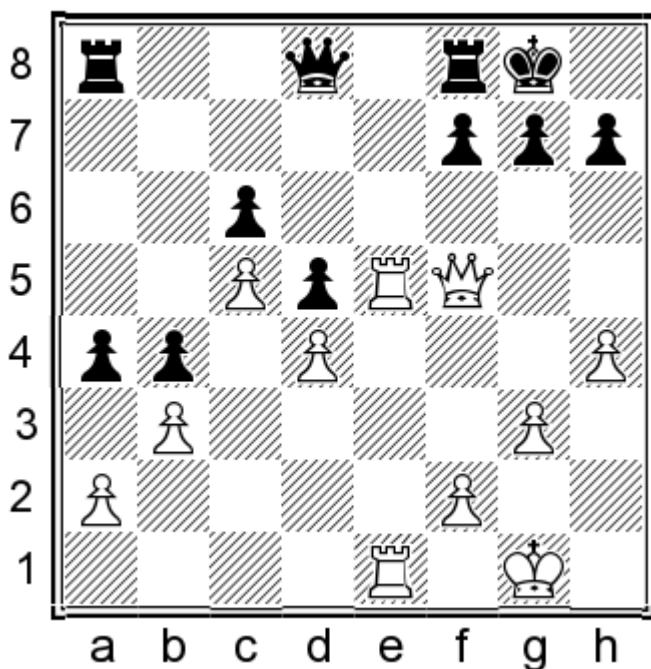
29...Bf6

On 29...Bxf5 30.Qxf5 Ra7, (while on 30...g6 he continues 31.Qh3) 31.Bxg7 Kxg7 32.Rxe7 wins,

30.h4! As Polugaevsky later wrote, with this move he continues to deprive Black of any counter-chances. Its idea is to force, after h5, the weakening ...h6, and then to proceed with the march of the f-pawn. The possible

exchanges in the centre are only to White's advantage.

30...Bxe5 31.Rxe5 Bxf5 32.Qxf5 a4 What else can Black do?!



33.Kg2 (!)

On the immediate 33.Re7, Black can simplify the position advantageously with 33...axb3 34.axb3 Ra1! After the accurate text move he is deprived of this possibility.

33...axb3 34.axb3 Ra3 35.R1e3 Ra7 Here, Polugaevsky later explained that at this point he decided not to undertake anything, but to reach the time control at move 40 and then to adjourn the game, "so as to find, in quiet conditions, the most clear-cut path for the realisation of the advantage."

36.h5 h6 37.Kh3 Qa8 38.Qf3 Qc8+ 39.Kg2 Ra2? The 7th rank should not have been given up.

40.Re7 Rd2 41.Qf4 Qb8 42.R3e5 Ra2 Evidently the best try.

Here, those in the press bureau (among them Ratmir Kholmov, who subsequently annotated the game for 64 (No. 12, 1969) apparently preferred 42...Rd3, "for some reason considering 43.Qg4 to be virtually obligatory for White."

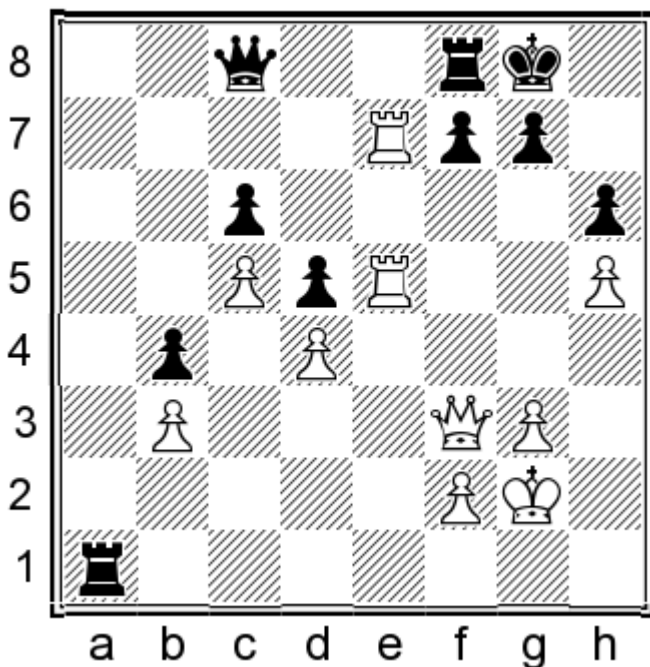
However, as Polugaevsky points out, on this White wins very simply by 43.Rd7 Rxb3 44.Qf5!, denying the b1-square to the black rook. On 44...f6

White has the reply 45.Ree7, while on 44...Qb5, 45.Rf7! decides.

43.Qe3 Ra8 44.Qe2 Qc8 45.Qf3 "The last move before the adjournment, and not the most successful."

45.g4 was preferable.

45...Ra1 The sealed move.



Apparently, the adjournment analysis showed that 45...Qa6 was the only move to present White with at least some difficulties.

46.Qe2

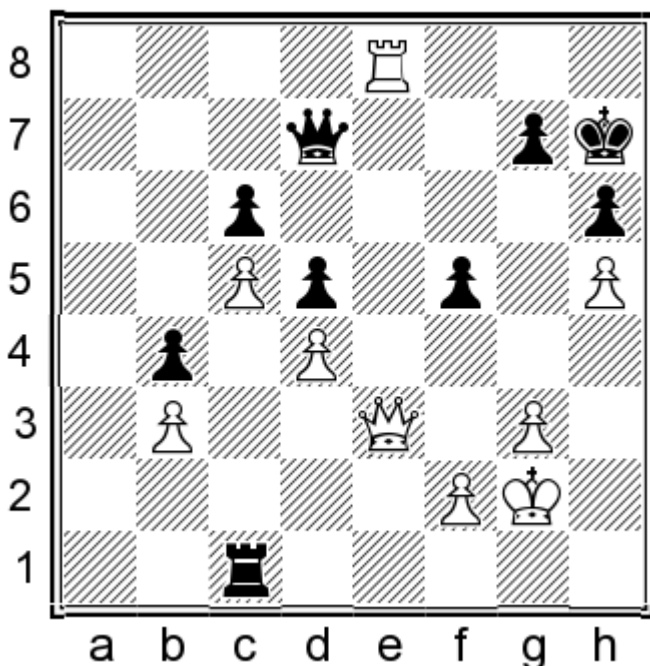
Now on 46...Ra8 White continues 47.g4, when after 47...Qb8 he wins by 48.Qe3 Kh7 49.g5 hg5 50.h6! gh6 51.Qd3 Kg8 52.. R5e6. Also of no help is 50...Qc8 51.Rg5 gh6 52.Qd3 Kh8 53.Rg3 Rg8 54.Rf7 Rg3 55.fg3 Ra2 56.Kf3.

Apparently, Zaitsev had expected the alternative 46.Rf5 Qa6 47.Rxf7 Qf1+ 48.Kh2 Qg1+ 49.Kh3 Qh1+ 50.Kg4 Qxf3+ 51.Rxf3 Rxf3 52.Kxf3, considering that White wins. Polugaevsky had seen this variation too, but did not wish to be deflected from his basic plan.

46...Rc1

Or 46...Qa6 47.Qxa6 Rxa6 48.Rb7, and wins.

47.Re8 Qd7 48.R5e7 Rxe8 49.Rxe8+ Kh7 50.Qd3+ f5 51.Qe3



51...Rc3

Here the commentators, (for instance, Kholmov) and Zaitsev himself considered that 51...Qf7 would have retained drawing chances for Black. They considered the variations arising from the continuation 52.Re7 Qf6 (52...Qf8 53.Qe6!) 53.Re6 Qg5

In his analysis in *Rozhdenie varianta* Polugaevsky shows that even here White wins, but he also points out that it is still simpler to continue 53.Rc7!. The black rook is under attack, and after 53...Rc3 54.Qe8!, or 53...Rc2 54.Qe8 f4 55.Rc6 Rf2 56.Kg1! Black is defenceless.

52.Qe5 f4 53.Qb8 f3+ 54.Kh2 and Black resigned. 1-0

After winning this game, although the score in the match had only become level, Polugaevsky "gained the scent of victory". The fifth game was drawn, and in the sixth he managed to score a decisive win. The status that went with the title of Soviet champion was immense, and the pressure the players were under can only be imagined. Writing in 64 (No 13, 1969), Zaitsev described how his nerves essentially failed him. After a sleepless night, he came to the final game of the match "dead on his feet", and after defending a difficult endgame well, he blundered a piece only two moves before the adjournment... Thus, he missed his chance of glory by the narrowest of margins, but the

name of Alexander Zaitsev has not been forgotten.

Douglas Griffin (Aberdeenshire, Scotland)

*Douglas Griffin in Central Chess Club,
Moscow 2019*



Competitive player since the age of 12, representing Scotland at all levels from Under-14 to senior international during 1980-1989. Inactive over-the-board since the mid-1990s, but remains a keen student of chess history, and diligent collector of classic chess literature in the English and Russian languages. Chess Informant associate.

- A** — R ♘ 1. d4, 1. e4
— 1. d4 R ♘ 1... ♗f6, 1... d5
— 1. d4 ♗f6 R ♘ 2. c4
— 1. d4 ♗f6 2. c4 R ♘ 2... e6, 2... g6
- B** — 1. e4 R ♘ 1... c5, 1... e6, 1... e5
— 1. e4 c5
- C** — 1. e4 e6
— 1. e4 e5
- D** — 1. d4 d5
— 1. d4 ♗f6 2. c4 g6 ♘ 3... d5
- E** — 1. d4 ♗f6 2. c4 e6
— 1. d4 ♗f6 2. c4 g6 ♘ 3... d5

A00-A24

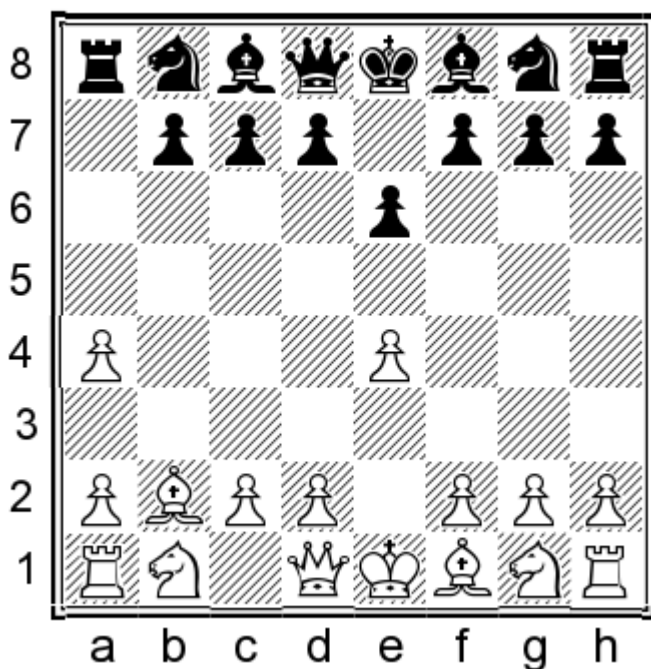
1. A01

Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789) - Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2758)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/1, 2021

1.b3 a5!? 2.e4 a4 3.Bb2

3.b4 - 124/1

3...e6 4.bxa4



4...Nf6N

4...Rxa4; 4...d5

5.e5 Nd5 6.Nf3 Nb6 7.Nc3 d5 8.exd6 Bxd6 9.Bd3

9.Bb5+ c6 10.Be2 O-O 11.O-O e5 12.d4 N8d7 ∞

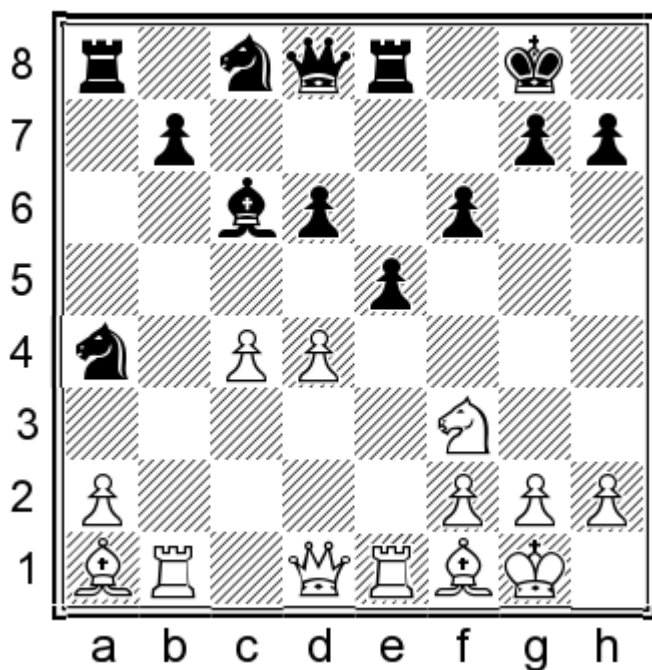
9...O-O 10.O-O N8d7

10...e5 11.Nb5 Nc6 12.Re1 Bg4 ∞

11.Re1 Nc5 12.Bf1 Bd7 13.Nb5 Ncxa4 14.Bd4 Bc6 15.Nxd6 cxd6 16.Rb1 e5 17.Ba1 Re8?!

17...f6!? 18.c4 d5 19.cxd5 Nxd5 ∞

18.c4 f6 19.d4 Nc8



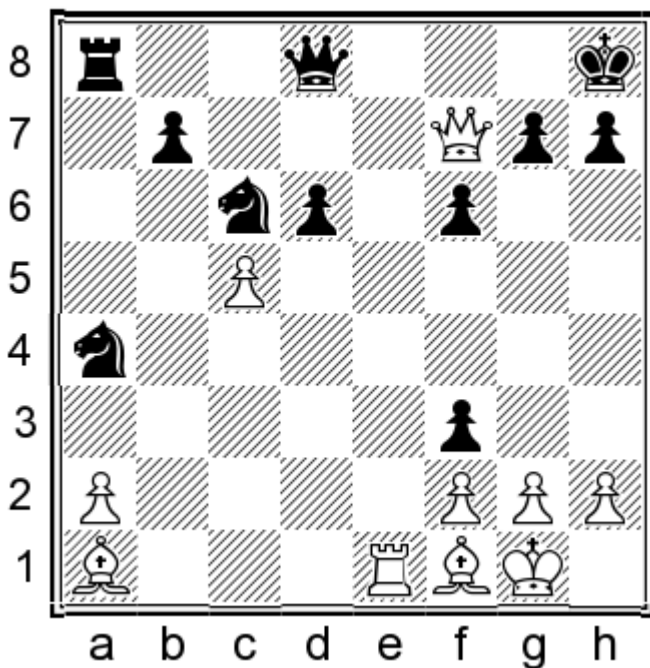
20.c5! e4

20...dxc5 21.dxe5 ±

21.d5! exf3

21...Bd7 22.c6 bxc6 23.dxc6 Bxc6 24.Nd4 Bd7 25.Bc4+ Kh8 26.Bd5 Ra6
27.Bb7 Rb6 28.Bxe4 ±

22.dxc6 Rxe1 23.Qd5+ Kh8 24.Rxe1 Ne7 25.Qf7 Nxc6



26.Bxf6! Qf8

26...gxf6 27.Re8+! Qxe8 28.Qxf6+ Kg8 29.Bc4+ +-

27.Qxb7 gxf6 28.Qxc6 Nxc5 29.Qxf3 Nd7

29...Rxa2 30.Re8! Qxe8 31.Qxf6+ Kg8 32.Bc4+ +-

30.Qd5 Ne5 31.f4 Ng6 32.g3 Ra7 33.Re6 Kg7 34.Rxd6 Ne7 35.Qe6 Qf7 1-0

2. !N A03

Cobic, Vladimir (2365) - Sargsyan, Shant (2598)

Beograd 148/2, 2021

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 Bf5 3.f4

3.d3 - 147/1, A 01

3...e6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.e3 h6 6.Ne5

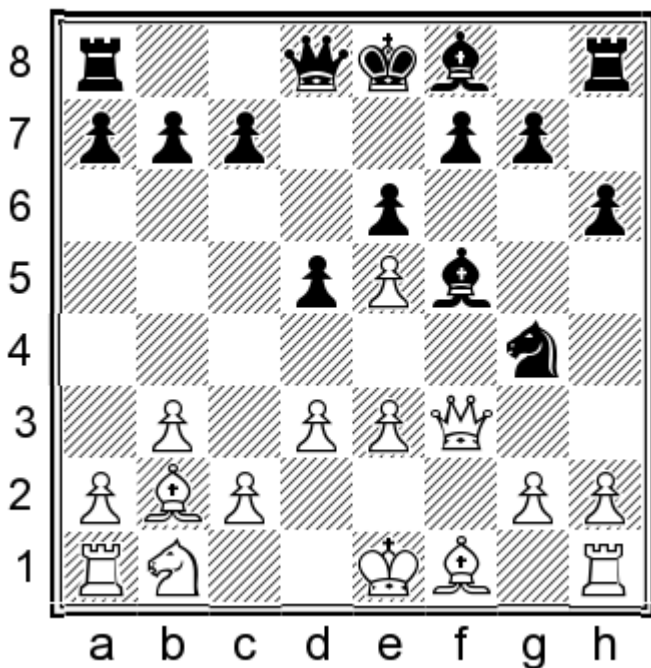
6.g3!? Be7 7.Bg2 O-O 8.O-O c5 9.Ne5 Nfd7 =

6...Nbd7 7.d3??

7.Bd3 Nxe5 8.Bxf5 (8.fxe5 Ne4 9.O-O Qg5 10.Nc3 O-O-O 11.Qe2 Bg4

12.Qe1 =) 8...Nc4 9.bxc4 exf5 10.cxd5 Qxd5 11.O-O =

7...Nxe5 8.fxe5 Ng4- + 9.Qf3



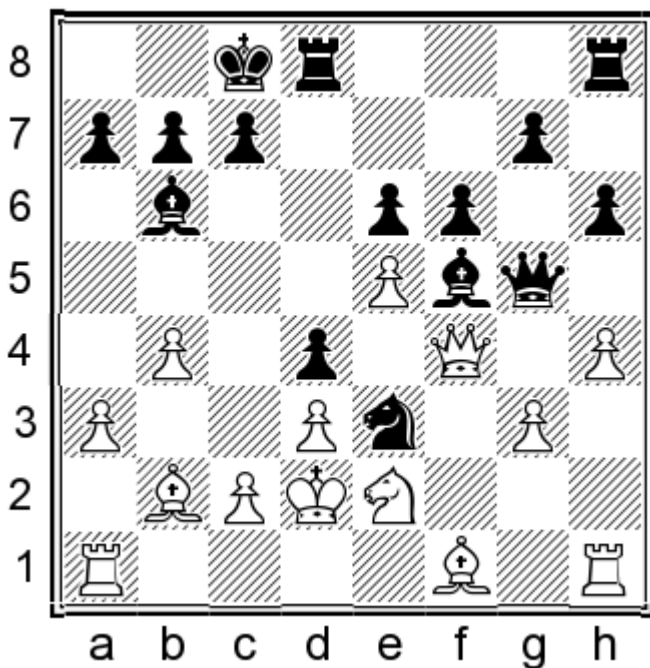
9...Qh4+!N

9...Qg5?! 10.h3 Nxe3 11.h4 Bg4 12.hxg5 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Nxc2+ 14.Kd2 Nxa1 15.Bxa1μ

10.g3 Qg5 11.Qf4

11.Ke2 Nxe5 12.Qf4 Bd6; 11.e4 Bg6 12.h4 Qe3+ 13.Qxe3 Nxe3 14.Kd2 Nxf1+ 15.Rxf1 dxe4

11...Nxe3 12.Kd2 Bc5 13.Nc3 d4 14.Ne2 O-O-O 15.a3 f6 16.b4 Bb6 17.h4



17...Qh5! 18.Bxd4 Nd5

18...Rxd4! 19.Nxd4 Nd5 20.Qf3 Bg4 21.Qe4 f5

19.Qf2 fxe5 20.Bxb6 Nxb6 21.Kc3 Rhf8 22.Qe1 Qf3 23.Rg1 Rxd3+ 0-1

3. A07

Mikhalevski, Victor (2552) - Boruchovsky, Avital (2541)

Israel (ch) 148/3, 2021

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 e6 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.O-O b5

4...Be7 - 147/2

5.d3 Be7 6.e4 c6 7.e5N

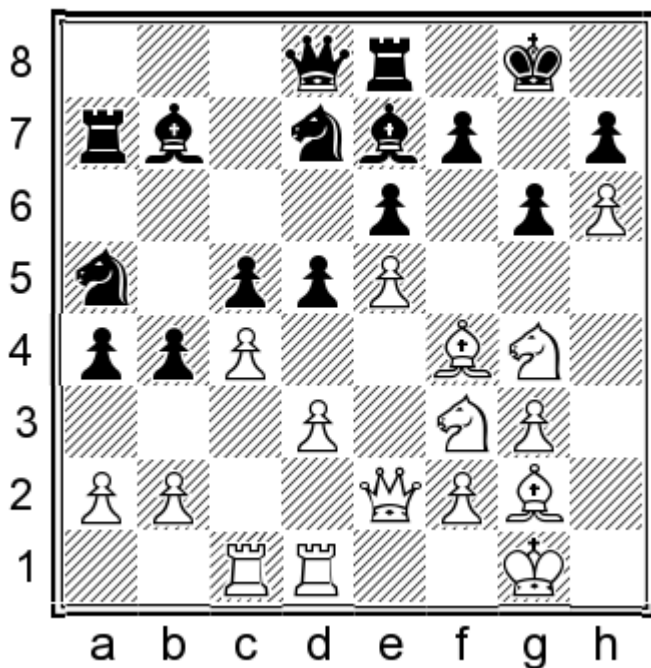
7.Nbd2 a5 8.Re1 b4 9.e5 Nfd7 10.h4 Na6 (10...Ba6!?) 11.Nf1 =

7...Nfd7 8.h4 O-O 9.Re1 b4 10.Nbd2 c5 11.Nf1 Nc6 12.N1h2 a5 13.Bf4 a4

14.c4 Nb6 15.Qe2 Bb7 16.h5 Na5 17.Rac1 Ra7?

17...h6! 18.Ng4 Ra7 =

18.h6! g6 19.Ng4 Nd7 20.Red1 Re8



21.Qe3?

21.Qd2! d4 22.Bg5 Bxf3 23.Bxe7 Qxe7 24.Bxf3 +-

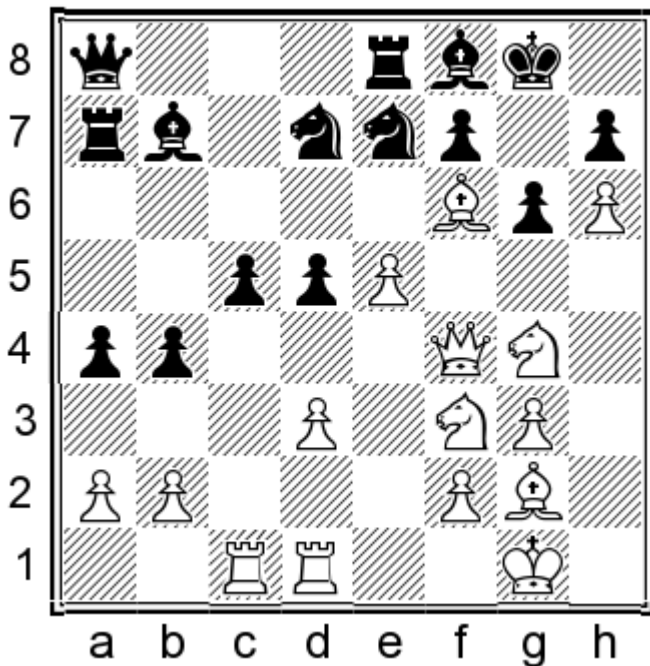
21...Qa8?

21...d4!? 22.Qe2 ± (22.Qd2?? Bxf3! 23.Bxf3 g5!-+)

22.Bg5! Bf8 23.Qf4 Nc6 24.cxd5

24.d4! cxd4 25.cxd5 exd5 26.Bf6! +-

24...exd5 25.Bf6 Ne7?



25...Nd8 26.Bxd8! Qxd8 27.Ng5 Re7 28.b3 d4 (28...Ra6 29.d4 axb3 30.axb3 f6 31.exf6 Nxf6 32.Nxf6+ Rxf6 33.Qxf6 Re1+ 34.Rxe1 Qxf6 35.Ne6+-) 29.Bxb7 Rxb7 30.Re1 Rb6 31.Ne4+-

26.e6! fxe6 27.Nfe5 Nxe5 28.Bxe5 Nf5 29.Nf6+ Kf7 30.g4! Bxh6 31.Qh2 Rh8 32.Rxc5 Bg7 33.gxf5 1-0

4. A07

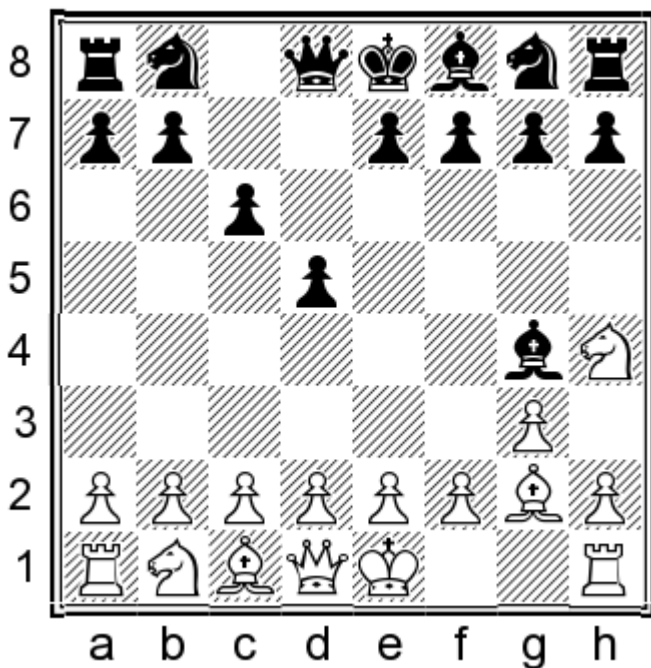
Mikhalevski, Victor (2552) - Nabaty, Tamir (2638)

Israel (ch) 148/4, 2021

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Bf5 3.Bg2 c6 4.Nh4

4.c4 - 122/2

4...Bg4



5.c4N

5.h3 Bh5 6.c4 dxc4 7.Na3 f6 8.Nxc4 Bf7 9.d3 Bxc4 10.dxc4 Qxd1+ 11.Kxd1 Nd7 ∞

5...dxc4 6.Na3 e5?!

6...g6 7.Nxc4 Bg7 8.O-O Nf6 9.d4 O-O²

7.Nxc4 Nd7 8.d4 Bb4+?

8...Be6 9.d5 cxd5 10.Bxd5 ±

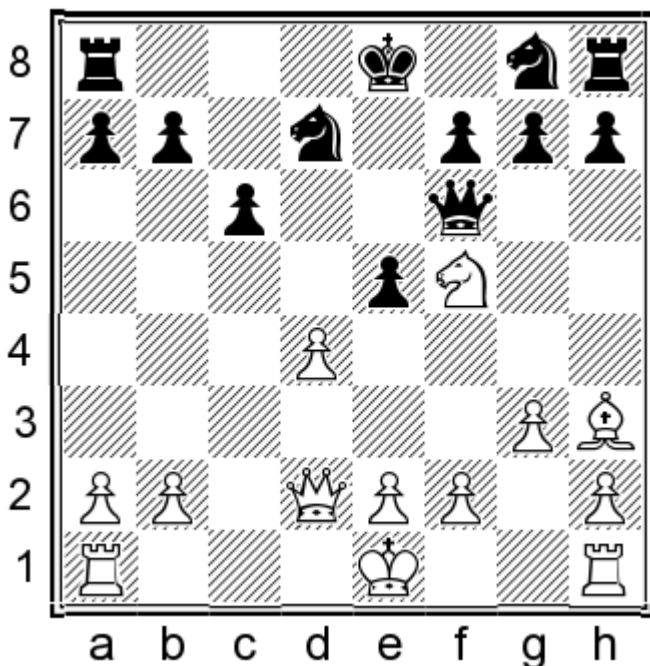
9.Bd2 Qe7

9...Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 Qe7 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nd6+ Kf8 13.f4 Ng6 14.Nhf5 Qc7 15.Qb4 c5

10.Ne3

10.O-O Bxd2 11.Qxd2 O-O-O 12.d5 ±

10...Be6 11.Nef5 Bxf5 12.Nxf5 Bxd2+ 13.Qxd2 Qf6 14.Bh3



14.e4!?

14...g6?

14...exd4 15.Qb4! O-O-O 16.Qd6! ±

15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Nd6+ Kf8 17.f4

17.f4 Nd7 (17...Rd8 18.fxe5 Qxe5 19.Nxf7! + -) 18.Bxd7 Rd8 19.Nxb7 + -

1-0

5. A13

Gorshtein, Ido (2387) - Nabaty, Tamir (2638)

Israel (ch) 148/5, 2021

1.c4 b6 2.Nc3 Bb7 3.Nf3 e6 4.g3 Bb4 5.Bg2 Bxc3 6.bxc3 f5N

6...Ne7 7.O-O O-O 8.d3 d6 9.e4 Nd7 10.Re1 e5 11.a4 a5 12.d4 Ng6 13.Ba3 Re8 14.Qc2 Nf6 15.Nd2 Qd7 16.f3 Ba6 17.Bf1 h6 18.Bd3 Nh7 19.Nf1 Ng5 20.Qd1 exd4 21.cxd4 f5 ∞ - 85/(2)

6...Nf6 - 95/5, A 17

6...c5

7.a4 a5

7...Nc6 8.d3 Nf6 9.Nd4 Na5 10.f3 O-O 11.Nb3 Nxb3 12.Qxb3 =

8.Ba3

8.Qb3!? Na6 9.Ba3 Rb8 10.O-O Nf6 11.d4²

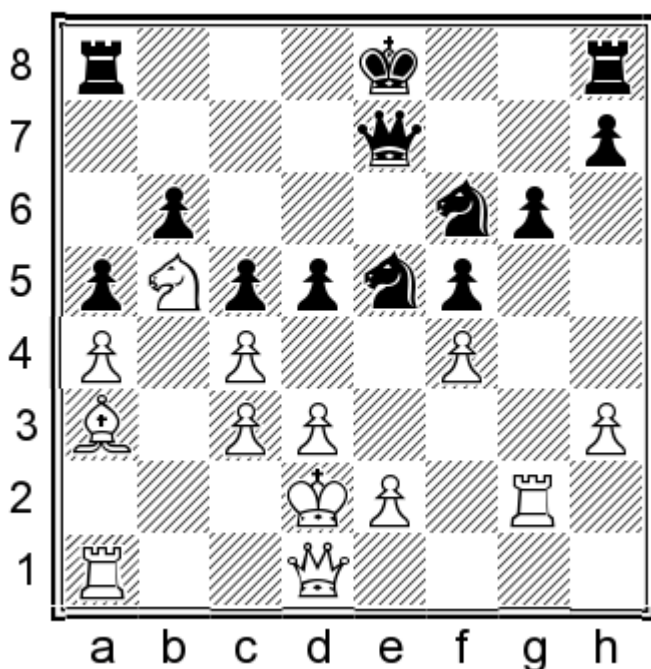
8...d6 9.h3?!

9.Qb3!? Nd7 10.c5 Nxc5 11.Bxc5 dxc5 12.Qxe6+ Ne7 13.O-O²

9...Nf6 10.g4?

10.O-O

**10...Qe7 11.gxf5 exf5 12.Rg1 Nbd7 13.Nd4 Bxg2 14.Rxg2 g6 15.d3 Ne5
16.Kd2 c5 17.Nb5 d5! 18.f4**



18...Nf7?!

18...Nxc4+!! 19.dxc4 O-O-O!μ

**19.Rg3 O-O 20.cxd5 Nxd5 21.Qf1 Rfe8 22.Re1 Qh4 23.Rf3 Rad8 24.c4
Nb4 25.Bb2 Nd6**

25...Re4!?

26.Nxd6 Rxd6 27.Qg1 Re4

27...Qe7! 28.Be5 Re6μ

28.Be5 Rd7

28...Rd8! =

29.Kc3 Rxe5?

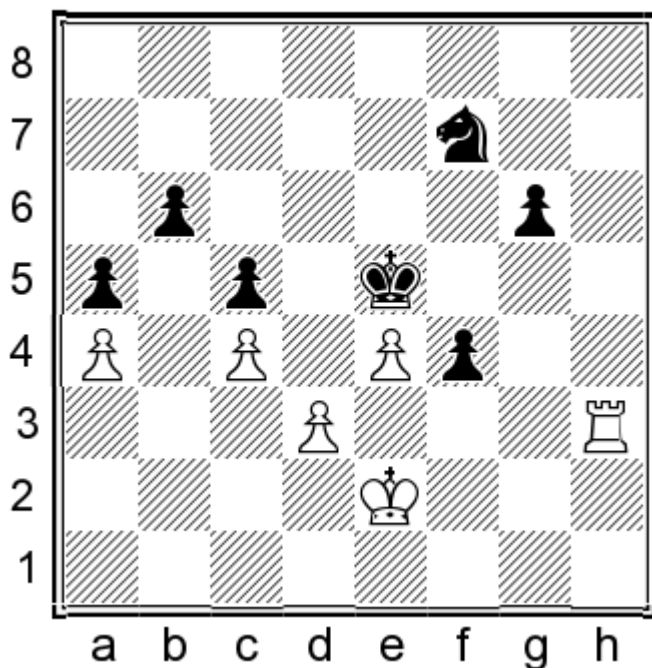
29...Red4!? 30.Bxd4 cxd4+ 31.Kd2 Qe7 =

30.fxe5 Kf7 31.Ref1 Ke6 32.e4 ± f4 33.Qg4+ Qxg4 34.hxg4 Kxe5 35.g5 Rf7

36.Rh1 + - Na2+ 37.Kd2 Nb4 38.Rfh3 Rd7 39.Ke2 Rd6 40.Rd1 Rd7

41.Rdh1 Rd6 42.Kd2 Rd7 43.Rf3 Nc6 44.Rh4 Rf7 45.Rfh3 Nd4 46.Rxh7

Nf3+ 47.Ke2 Nxg5 48.Rxf7 Nxf7



49.Rh7?

49.Rh1! Kd4 50.Rb1 g5 51.Rxb6 g4 52.Rf6 Ne5 53.Rd6+ Kc3 54.Rd5 + -

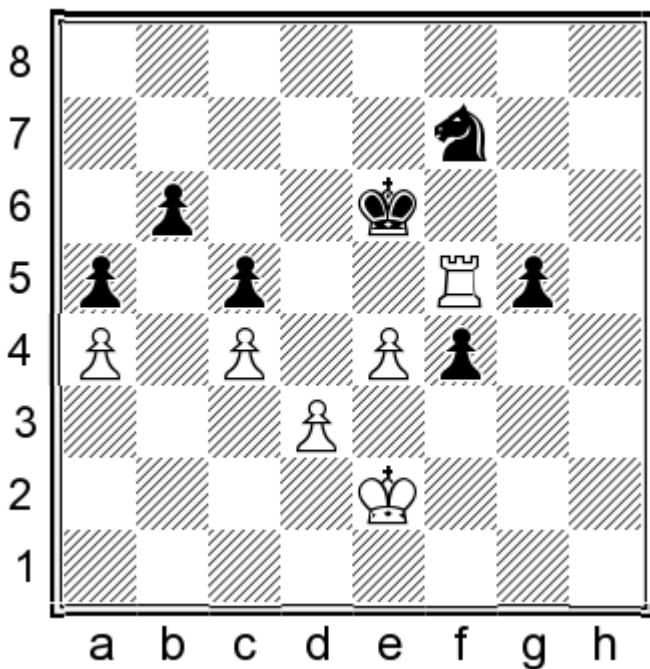
49...Kf6 50.Rh1 Ne5 51.Rh8 g5?!

51...Kf7! 52.Rb8 Nd7 53.Rh8 Ne5 =

52.Rf8+! Ke6?

52...Nf7 53.Rb8 + -; 52...Kg6! 53.Rf5 Nc6! →

53.Rf5! Nf7



54.Kf2! Ke7 55.Kf3 +- Ke8

55...Ke6 56.Kg4!

56.e5 Ke7 57.Ke4 Ke8 58.Rf6 Ke7 59.Rg6 f3 60.Kd5 1-0

A25-A49

6. **** A28

Nevednichy, Vladislav (2546) - Studer, Noel (2582)

Los Cancajos 148/6, 2020

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.e4 Bb4 5.d3 d6 6.a3

6.g3 Bg4 - 103/12

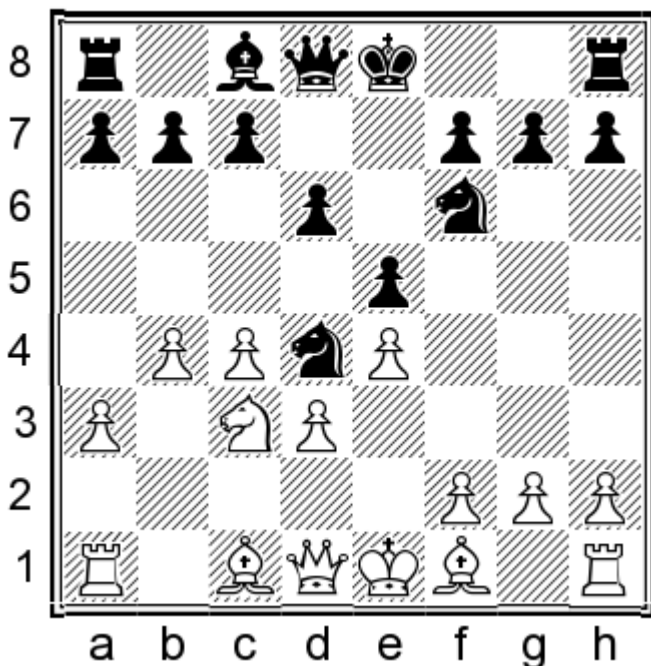
6...Bc5 7.b4 Bb6

7...Bd4 8.Nxd4 Nxd4 9.Ne2 (9.Be2 a5 (9...Bd7 10.O-O h6 11.f4²) 10.b5 c6 11.O-O O-O 12.f4 (12.Be3 a4) 12...cxb5 13.Nxb5 Nxb5 14.cxb5 Qb6+ 15.Rf2 Qxb5 16.Be3 exf4 17.Bxf4 Qb6 18.Rb1 Qd4 ∞) 9...Ne6 (9...c5 10.Nxd4 cxd4 11.Be2 a5 12.b5 O-O 13.O-O Nd7 14.f4²) 10.f4!? (10.g3 a5 11.Bd2 axb4 12.axb4 Rxa1 13.Qxa1 b5,,) 10...Nxf4 11.Nxf4 exf4 12.Bxf4 Bg4 13.Be2 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 Nd7 15.O-O O-O 16.Rf3²

8.Na4 Bd4 9.Nxd4

9.Rb1 a6 (9...Bg4 10.Be2 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Nd7 12.Bd2 Nf8 13.Nc3 Ne6 14.O-O a5 15.b5 (15.Bg4 axb4 16.axb4 O-O 17.Kh1 Bxc3 18.Bxc3 Ncd4 19.g3 Ra2,,) 15...Ne7 16.g3²) 10.Be2 (10.b5 Ne7 11.Nxd4 exd4 12.b6 c5 13.Be2 Bd7 14.f4 O-O 15.O-O Bc6 ∞) 10...O-O 11.O-O Ba7 12.Be3 Bg4 13.h3 (13.Nc3 Bxf3 14.Bxf3 Nd4 15.g3 c6 ∞ 16.Bg2 a5,,) 13...Bxf3 14.Bxf3 Nd4 15.c5!? dxc5 (15...Ne6 16.Qc2 ... Rfc1²) 16.Nxc5 b5 (16...Rb8 17.Rc1 Bxc5 18.Rxc5 Nxf3+ 19.Qxf3 Qxd3 20.Rxc7 Qxe4 21.Qxe4 Nxe4 22.Ba7 Ra8 23.Rxb7²; 16...Bxc5 17.bxc5 Rb8 18.Be2 b6 19.cxb6 cxb6 20.Qd2²) 17.Rc1 Bb6 18.a4!? Re8 19.a5 Bxc5 20.Rxc5 Nxf3+ 21.Qxf3 Qxd3 22.Rxc7 Qxe4 23.Qxe4 Nxe4 24.Rd1 $\copyright$

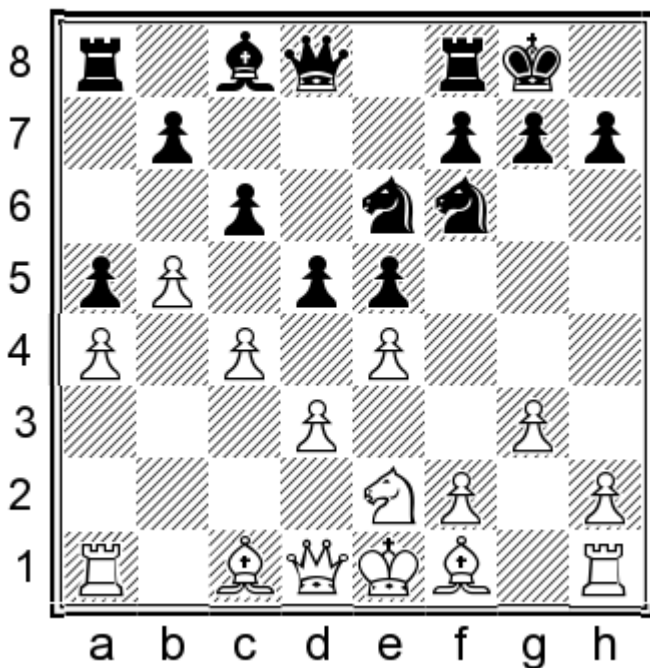
9...Nxd4 10.Nc3



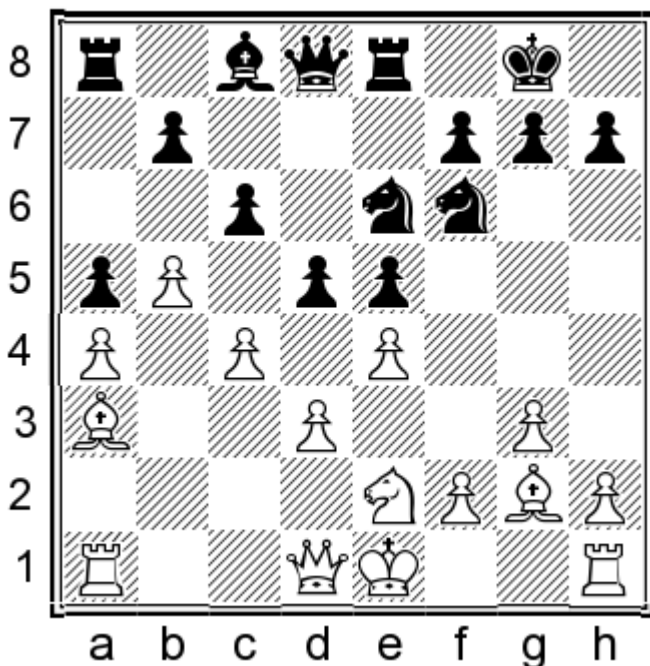
10.Be2 Bd7 (10...a5 11.b5 Nd7 12.Be3 Ne6 13.O-O Ndc5 14.Nc3 O-O
 15.Bg4!? (15.Re1 c6 16.Bf1 a4,,) 15...a4 16.Rb1 c6 (16...Bd7 17.Nd5²)
 17.Bxe6 Bxe6 18.Rb4 f5 19.f3²) 11.Nc3 a5 12.b5 c6 13.a4 O-O 14.O-O Ne8
 ... f5 ∞

10...O-O

10...c6 11.Ne2 Ne6 12.g3 d5 13.exd5 cxd5 14.Bg2²; 10...h6 11.Ne2 Ne6 12.f4
 exf4 13.Nxf4 a5 14.b5 c6 15.Rb1²; 10...a5 11.b5 a4!? (11...c6 12.a4 O-O
 13.Ne2 Nxe2 14.Bxe2 Δ d5 15.exd5 cxd5 16.O-O Be6 17.c5²; 11...O-O
 12.Ne2 Ne6 13.a4 c6 14.g3 d5

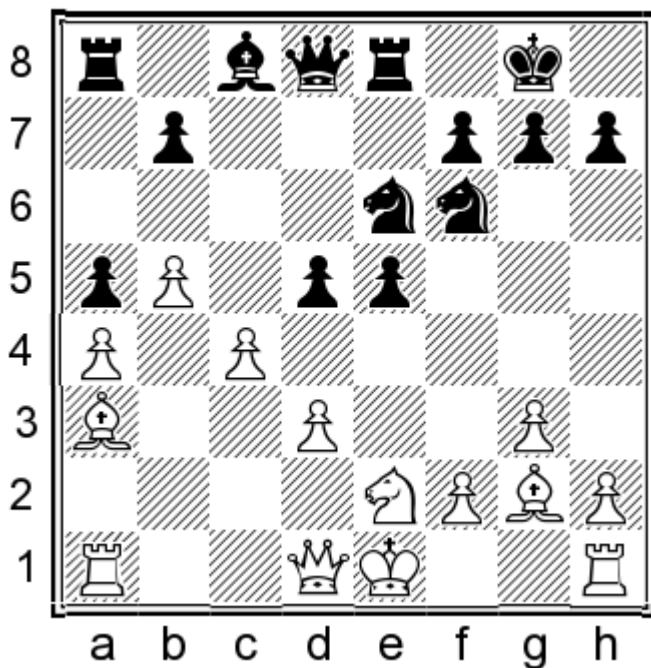


15.exd5N (15.cxd5 cxd5 16.Ba3 dxe4 17.dxe4 Qb6 18.Bg2 Rd8 19.Qc2 =;
15.Ba3 - 148/(6) 15...Re8 16.Bg2



16...dxc4N (16...dxe4) 17.dxc4 Qb6 18.Qc2 Nc5 19.O-O Bg4 20.Rab1 Rad8

21.bxc6 Qxc6 22.Bxc5 Qxc5 23.Rxb7 Bd7 24.Rc1 Rb8 25.Rxb8 Rxb8
 26.Nc3 Qxc4 27.Nb5 Qxc2 28.Rxc2 Kf8 29.Rc5 = Rogemont,A-
 Polishchuk,A corr 148/(6) 2020) 15...cxd5 16.Ba3 Re8 17.Bg2



17...Nd4 (17...b6 18.O-O²; 17...dxc4 18.dxc4 Nd4 19.O-O Bg4 20.f3 Bf5
 21.Nxd4 exd4 22.Qd2 d3 23.Qf4 Qb6+ 24.Rf2 Rad8f) 18.O-O Bg4 19.f3
 Nxe2+ 20.Qxe2 Bf5 21.c5 d4!? 22.Rac1 Rc8 23.Qd2 h5 24.Rfe1 Qd7!?
 25.Qxa5 h4©) 12.Be2 (12.Nxa4 c6 13.Nc3 d5©) 12...Nd7 13.O-O Nc5 14.f4
 O-O 15.f5 Ncb3 16.Ra2 c6 17.Be3 Qa5 (17...f6 18.Nxa4 Bd7 19.Rb2 Qa5
 20.Nb6!²) 18.Qe1 f6∞

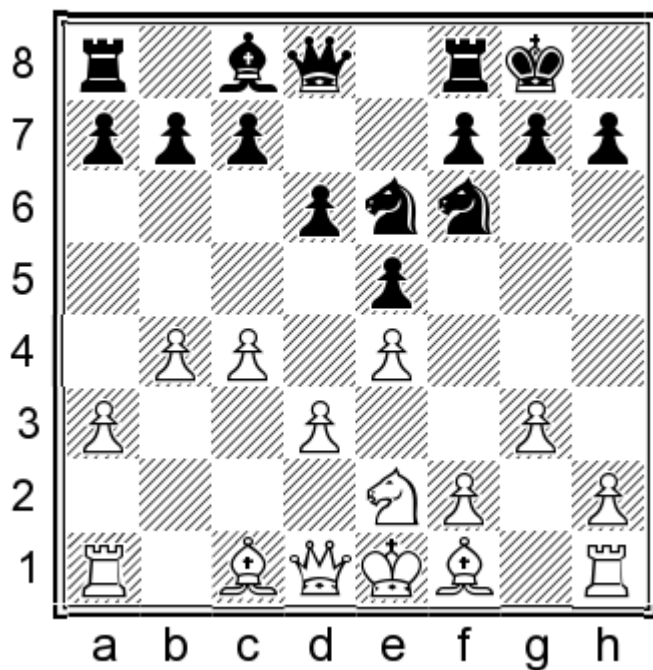
11.Ne2

11.Be2 c6 12.O-O a5 13.b5 a4!? (13...d5 14.cxd5 cxd5 15.Bb2 Nxe2+
 16.Nxe2 Re8∞) 14.bxc6 (14.Rb1 Nd7 15.f4 Nc5 16.f5 Ncb3,,) 14...bxc6
 15.Rb1 Nd7 (15...Be6 16.f4 Qa5!? 17.Bd2 exf4 18.Rxf4 Nb3 19.Be1 Qe5
 20.Rf2 d5,,) 16.f4 exf4 (16...Qa5 17.Na2!? Qa7 18.Be3 exf4 19.Rxf4 Ne5
 20.Kh1 c5 21.Bxd4 cxd4 22.Nb4 Be6∞) 17.Bxf4 Nc5 18.Be3 Ncb3 19.Rb2
 (19.Bg4?! Qa5!³) 19...Qa5 20.Qe1 Nxe2+ 21.Nxe2 Qxe1 22.Rxe1 f5
 23.Nc3 =

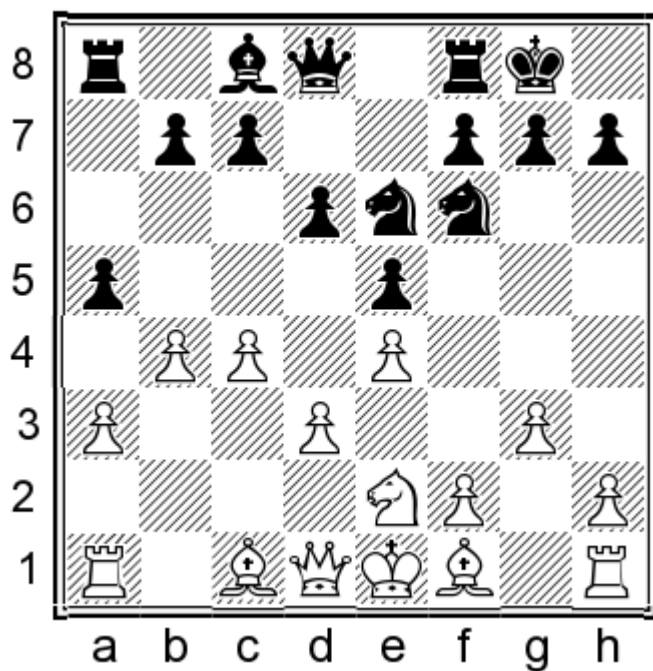
11...Ne6

11...Bg4 12.f3 Nxe2 13.Bxe2 Be6 14.Be3²

12.g3

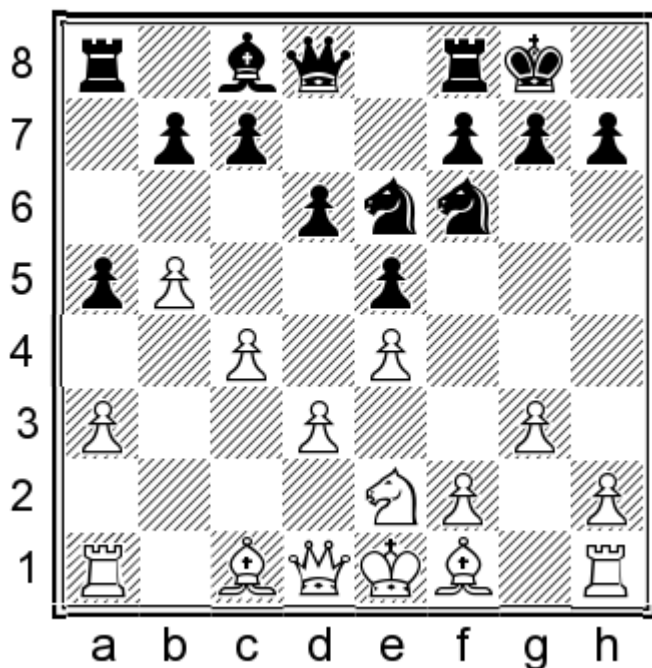


12...a5

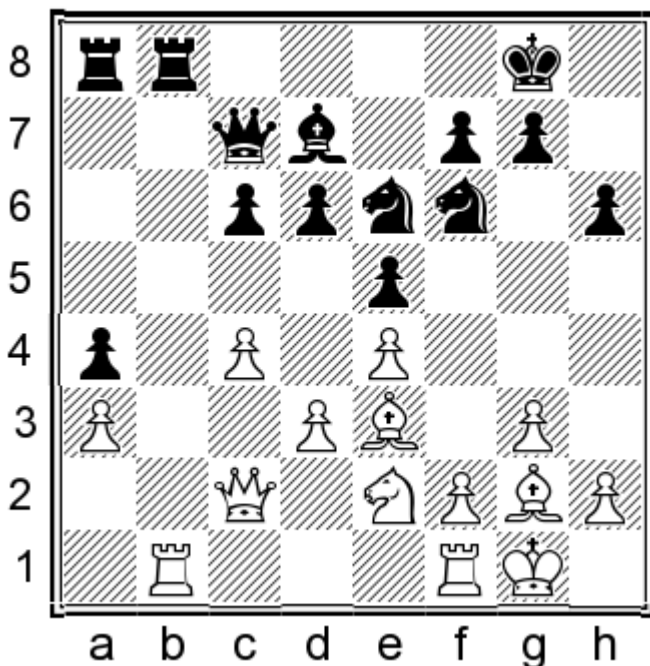


13.Bd2N - 148/6

13.b5



- 148/(6) 13...a4!?N (13...c6 - 148/(6)) 14.Rb1 c6 15.Bg2 Bd7 16.bxc6 bxc6
17.O-O Qc7 18.Qc2 Rfb8 19.Be3 h6



20.Rxb8+ (20.h3 c5 21.f4 Bc6∞) 20...Rxb8 21.Rb1 Ng4 22.Bd2 Nd4
23.Nxd4 exd4 24.h3 Ne5 25.f4 Ng6 26.Kh2 c5 = Rogemont,A-Rita,G corr
148/(6) 2020

13.Rb1N axb4 14.axb4 b5,, Harutyunian,T (2549)-Le,Q (2709) chess.com
(Int.-blitz) 148/(6) 2020

13...axb4 14.axb4 Rxa1 15.Qxa1 b5!?

15...Bd7 16.Bg2 b5 17.O-O (17.Qb2 Qa8 18.O-O bxc4 19.dxc4 Qc6 20.Qc2
Ra8 =) 17...Qa8 18.f4 bxc4 19.dxc4 Qb7 20.fxe5 Ra8 21.Qb2 Qa7+ 22.c5
dxe5 23.Nc3 (23.Qxe5? Qa2- +) 23...Nd4,,

16.Bg2 bxc4

16...c5 17.O-O (17.cxb5 Bd7 18.Qa6 Qc7 19.O-O Rb8,,) 17...bxc4 18.dxc4
Bb7 19.Qb1 Qa8 20.Nc3 cxb4 21.Nd5 Rb8 22.Nxf6+ (22.Bxb4 Bxd5 23.exd5
Qa4 24.dxe6 fxe6 25.c5 Rxb4 26.Qd3 d5 27.Qc3 Rd4 28.Rb1 Rd1+ 29.Rxd1
Qxd1+ 30.Bf1 Ne4 31.Qxe5 Kf7 =) 22...gxf6 23.Qxb4 Bc6 24.Qxd6 Rd8
25.Qb4 Bxe4 =

17.dxc4 Bb7 18.f3

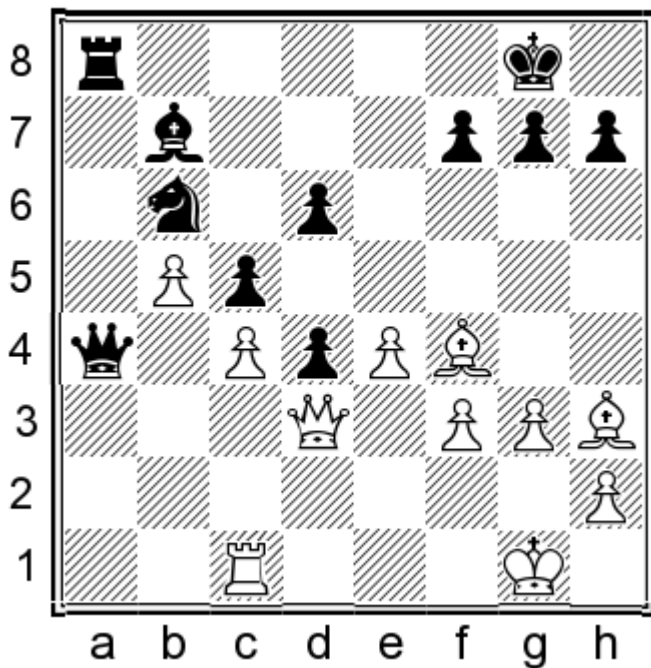
18.Nc3 Nd4 19.O-O Qd7 20.b5 Qe6 21.Qa7 Nb3 22.Qxb7 Nxd2 23.Rd1
Qxc4 24.Qc6 Qxc6 25.bxc6 Nb3 26.Nb5 Ne8 27.Bh3 g6 28.Bd7 Nd4 =

18...Qd7 19.O-O Ra8,, 20.Qc3 Qa4 21.Rc1 c5!/? 22.b5 Nd7 23.Qd3 Nd4

24.Bh3 Nb6

24...Qb3 25.Qxb3 Nxb3 26.Bxd7 Nxd2 27.Kf2 Nb3 =

25.Nxd4 exd4 26.Bf4



26...Qb4?!

26...Rd8 27.Bg5 f6 28.Be6+ Kh8 29.Bf4 g5 30.Bd2 Re8 31.Bf5 Qa2 32.e5 dxe5 33.Bxh7 Re7 34.Qg6 Rg7 35.Qe8+ Kxh7 36.Qh5+ Kg8 =

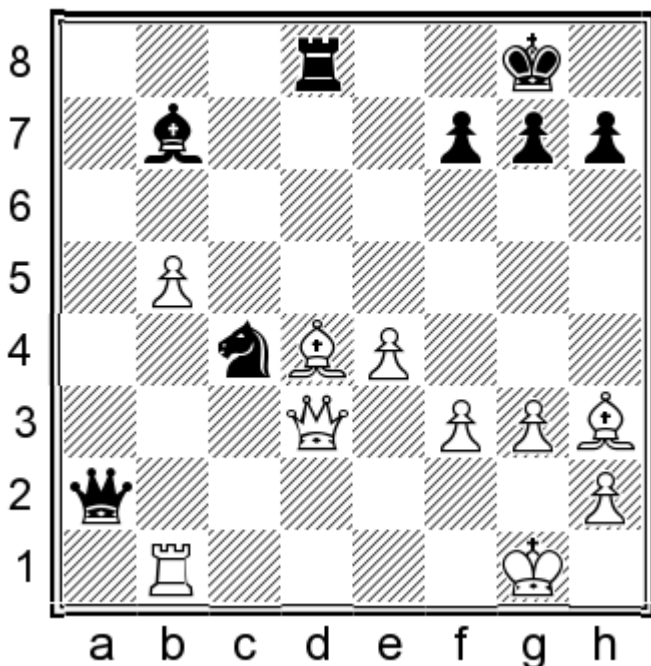
27.Bxd6 Qb2

27...Ra4 28.Bf1 h6 29.e5 Bc8 30.f4 Be6 31.Rb1 Qxc4 32.Qxc4 Nxc4 33.Bxc4 Rxc4 34.b6 ±

28.Rb1 ± Qa2?

28...Ra1 29.Rxa1 Qxa1+ 30.Bf1 Na4 31.Qc2 Bc8 32.Bf4 Nc3 33.Bd2 ±

29.Bxc5 Nxc4 30.Bxd4 Rd8



31.Rd1?

31.Rf1 h6 32.Bg2 Qb2 33.Bxb2 Rxd3 34.Rc1 Nxb2 35.Rc7 Bxe4 36.fxe4 Rb3 37.Bf1 ±; 31.Rc1! Nd2 32.Qc3! + - Nb3 (32...Rxd4 33.Qc8+!; 32...h6 33.Ra1 Qc4 34.Qxc4 Nxc4 35.Bc5 Ne5 36.Bg2 + -) 33.Be6! Nxd4 (33...fxe6 34.Qc7 + -) 34.Bxa2 Ne2+ 35.Kf1! Nxc3 36.Rxc3 + -

31...Ne5

31...Qa4! 32.Bf1 Nb2 33.Bxb2 Qxd1 =

32.Bxe5 Rxd3 33.Rxd3 Qa5 34.Bc3

34.Bf1 h5! 35.h4 Kh7 36.Rd7 (36.Rd1 f6 37.Bd4 f5,,) 36...Bc6! 37.bxc6 Qxe5 38.Kh2 Qe6 39.Bh3 Qxc6 40.Rxf7 Qc4 41.Rd7 Qe2+ 42.Bg2 Kg8 43.f4 Qe3 44.e5 g6 =

34...Qb6+ 35.Kg2 h5 36.Bf5 g6 37.Bd7 Qc7 38.Be1

38.Bc6 Bxc6 39.bxc6 Kh7 40.Rd7 Qxc6 41.Rxf7+ Kg8 42.Rg7+ Kf8 43.Be5 Qc2+ 44.Kh3 Qc8+ 45.Kh4 Qd8+ 46.Kh3 Qc8+ =

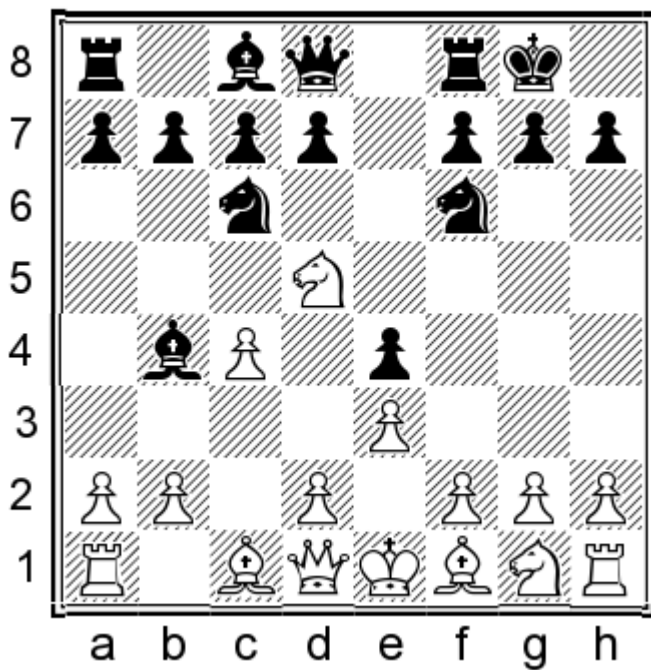
38...Qc2+ 39.Rd2 Qc1 = 40.Kf2 Qc5+ 41.Ke2 Qc4+ 42.Ke3 Qc3+ 43.Ke2 Qc4+ 44.Ke3 f5 45.Rd4 Qc1+ 46.Bd2 Qg1+ 47.Kd3 Qf1+ 48.Ke3 Qg1+ 49.Kd3 Qf1+ 50.Ke3 fxe4 51.fxe4 Qg1+ 52.Kd3 Qxh2 53.Bf4 Qa2 54.Bc6 Qb3+ 55.Kd2 Qb2+ 56.Kd3 Qb3+ 57.Kd2 Qb2+ 58.Kd3 Qb3+ 1/2-1/2

7. **** A28

Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2792) - So, Wesley (2770)

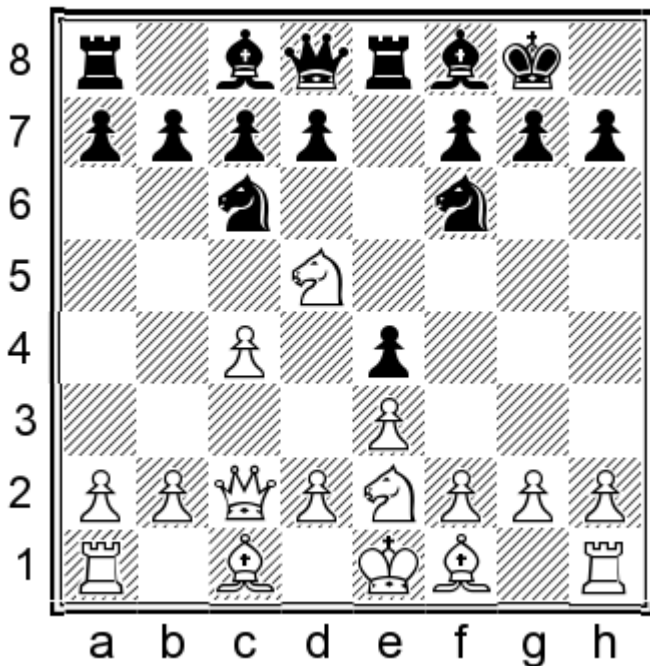
chess24.com (Int.-m2/1-rapid) 148/7, 2021

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.e3 Bb4 5.Nd5 e4 6.Ng1 O-O

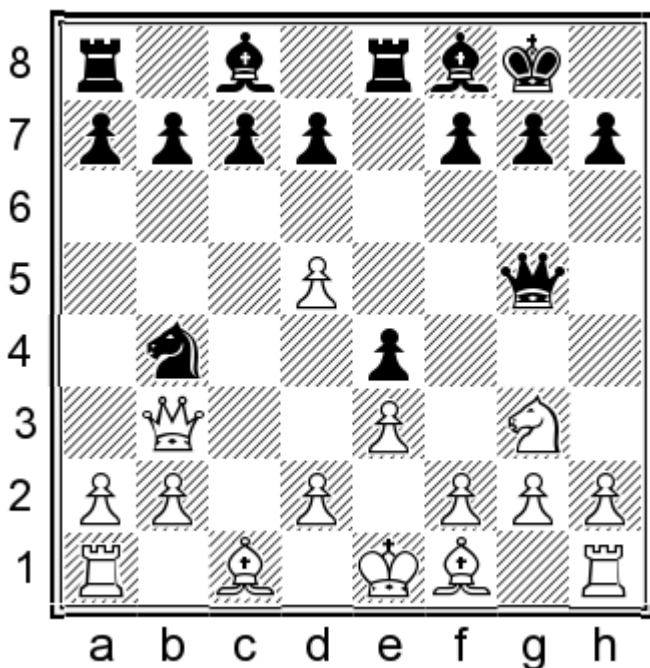


7.Nh3!?N

7.Qc2 - 148/(7) 7...Re8 8.Ne2 Bf8

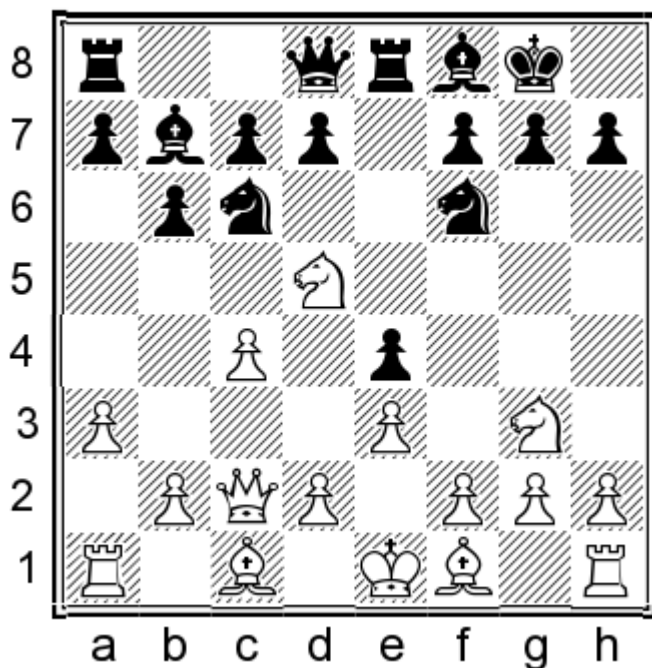


9.a3 - 148/ (7) (9.Ng3?N Nxd5 10.cxd5 Nb4 11.Qb3 Qg5

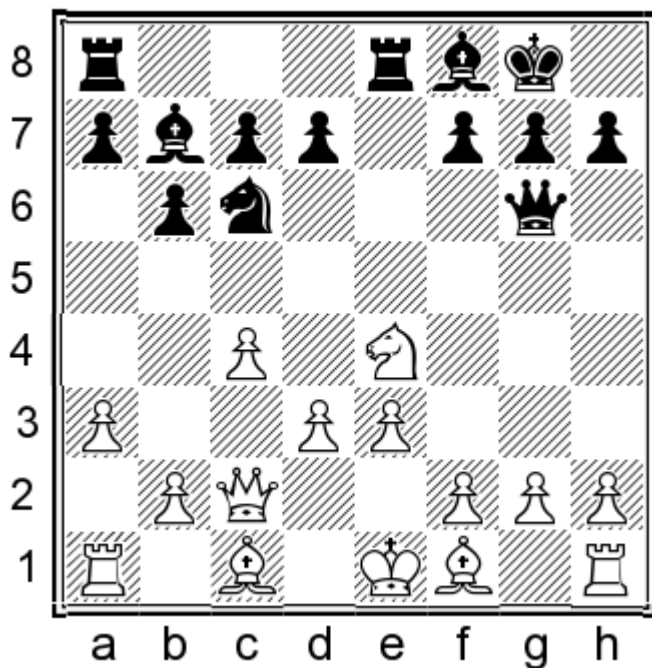


(11...a5μ 12.a3? a4 13.Qc4 b5- +) 12.Bc4 Isajevsky,A (2403)-Marinkovic,I (2432) lichess.org (Int.-blitz) 148/(7) 2021 (12.Bc4 b5! 13.Be2 (13.Bxb5 Rb8-

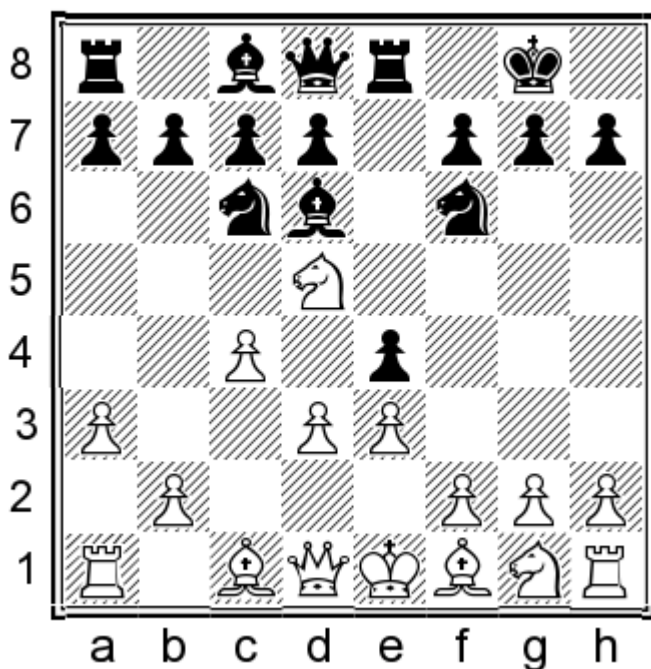
+) 13...Bb7(μ) 9...b6 (9...Ne5 - 48/(24)) 10.Ng3 Bb7



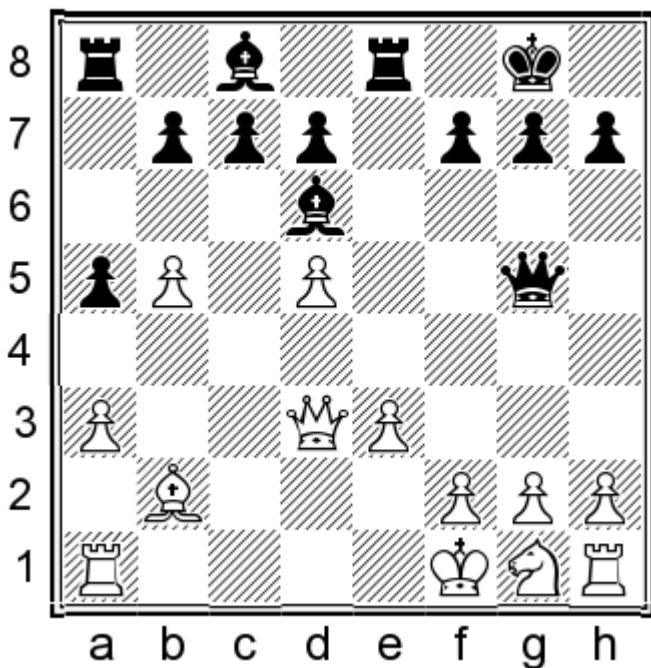
11.Nxf6+?!N (11.d3 exd3 12.Bxd3 h5!? ∞) 11...Qxf6 12.Nxe4 Qg6 13.d3



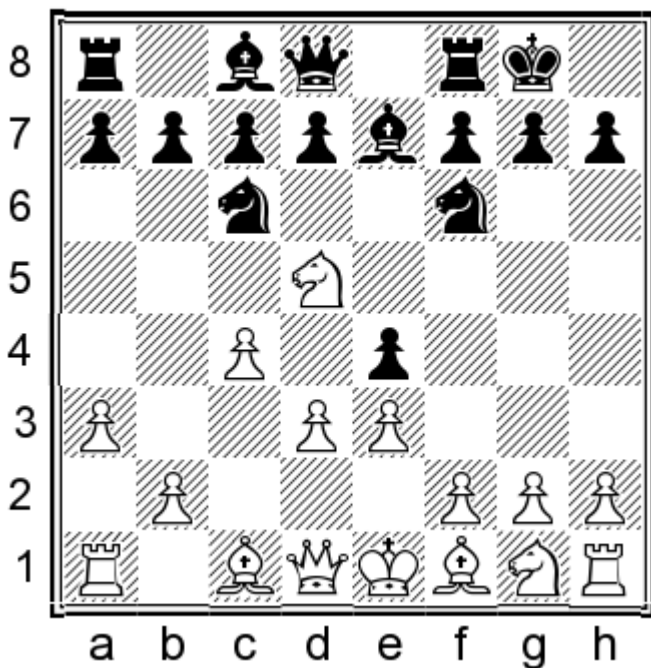
13...Ne5 (13...f5! 14.Ng3 Nd4 15.Qc3 c5 ... f4μ) 14.Ng3 Rad8 Gunnarsson,A
 (2420)-Sarana,A (2640) tornelo. com (Int. -blitz) 148/(7) 2020 (14...Rad8
 15.e4 b5!? (15...h5!?) 16.cxb5 d5©)7.a3 - 148/(7) 7...Be7 (7...Bd6 8.d3 Re8



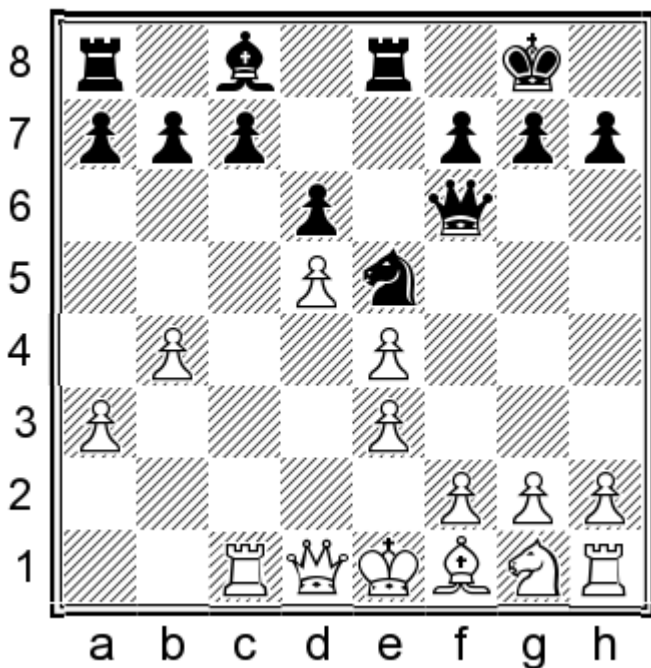
9.b4?!N (9.dxe4 - 32/41) 9...a5!? 10.b5 Ne5 11.Bb2 (11.Nxf6+ Qxf6 12.d4
 Ng6 13.Ne2 Nh4!f) 11...Nxd5 12.cxd5 exd3 13.Bxd3 Qg5 14.Kf1 (14.Bf1
 Bc5f) 14...Nxd3 15.Qxd3



15...b6 (15...c6! 16.Nf3 Qh5 17.dxc6 (17.Kg1 cxb5 18.Qxb5 b6μ) 17...dxc6 18.bxc6 (18.Qxd6? Qxb5+- +) 18...Rd8 19.c7 Rd7! (19...Bxc7? 20.Qc3 +- -) 20.Qc3 f6μ) 16.Nf3 Qh5 17.e4 Bb7 ∞ Petrosyan,M (2625)-Eljanov,P (2672) chess.com (Int. -rapid) 148/(7) 2021 (17...c6!μ 18.dxc6 dxc6 19.Qxd6? Qxb5+- +)) 8.d3



8...Re8!? (8...exd3 - 146/(8)) 9.b4N (9.dxe4) 9...d6 10.Bb2 Nxd5 11.cxd5 Bf6! 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Rc1 (13.dxc6?? Qc3+ 14.Ke2 exd3+ 15.Qxd3 (15.Kf3? Qf6+ 16.Kg3 Qg5+ 17.Kf3 Qg4#) 15...Qxa1- +) 13...Ne5 14.dxe4

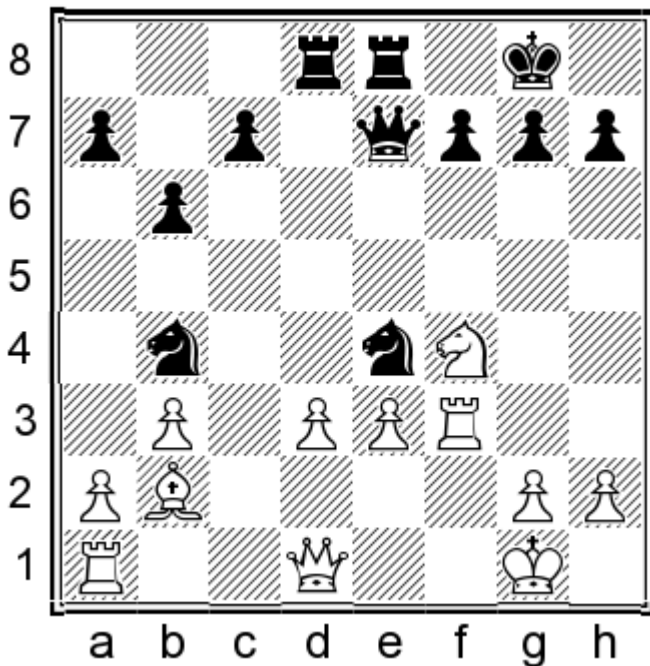


14...Bg4? (14...c6!©) 15.Be2 Bxe2 16.Nxe2 ± Petrosyan,M (2625)-Aditya,M (2438) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(7) 2021 (16.Qxe2 Qg6 17.f3 f5 18.exf5 Qxf5 19.e4 Qg5 20.Rc2 c6 21.Nh3 Qh4+ 22.Nf2 cxd5 23.O-O dxe4 24.Qxe4²)

7...Re8 8.Nhf4 b6

8...Bf8

9.Nxb4 Nxb4 10.b3 d5 11.Bb2 dxc4 12.Bxc4 Ba6 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.O-O Qe7 15.f3 Rad8 16.fxe4 Nxe4 17.d3 Nb4 18.Rf3?!



18.Qe2 Nc5! 19.Nh5 Qxe3+ 20.Qxe3 Rxe3 21.Bxg7 Nc2 22.Rac1 Nd4 23.Rc4 Nce6 24.Bf6 Rd5 25.Bxd4 Rxd4 26.Nf6+ Kg7 27.Ne8+ Kf8 28.Nxc7 Rxd3 =

18...f6

18...Qd6! 19.Ba3 c5 20.Bxb4 cxb4³

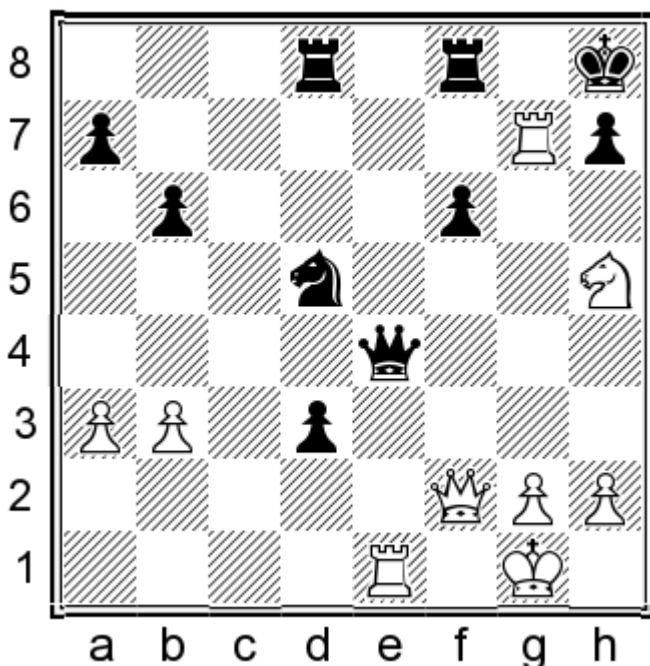
19.Qe2 Ng5 20.Rg3 Ne6 21.Nh5 → Kh8 22.Rf1 Rf8 23.d4 c5 24.a3 Nd5 25.e4! Nxd4 26.Bxd4?!

26.Qd3! g6 27.exd5 gxh5 28.Bxd4 cxd4 29.Qxd4f

26...cxd4 27.Rxg7 d3!,, 28.Qf2

28.Qxd3? Qc5+ 29.Kh1 Ne3- +

28...Qxe4 29.Re1



29...Ne3! 30.Rxe3™

30.Qd2? Qd4! 31.Rxe3 Rfe8- +

30...Qxe3 31.Qxe3 d2 32.Rxh7+™ Kxh7 33.Nxf6+ Kg6

33...Rxf6? 34.Qe7+ + -

34.Qg3+ Kf7

34...Kxf6 35.Qf4+ = - 42.Qf4

35.Qc7+ Kg6 36.Qg3+ Kf7 37.Qc7+ Ke6 38.Qc4+ Kf5 39.Qe4+ Kxf6

40.Qf4+ Ke7 41.Qe3+ Kf6 42.Qf4+ Ke6 43.Qe3+ Kf5 44.Qf3+ Kg6

45.Qg4+ Kf7 46.Qf4+ Ke7 47.Qe3+ Kf7 48.Qf4+ Ke7 1/2-1/2

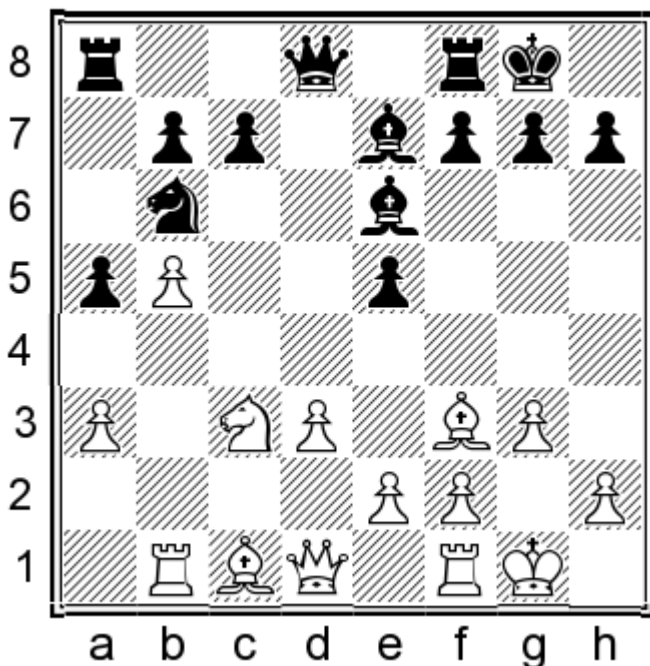
8. A29

Sturt, Raven (2490) - Martirosyan, Haik M (2620)

Beograd 148/8, 2021

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Nc3 Nb6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.O-O Be7

8.d3 O-O 9.a3 Be6 10.b4 a5 11.b5 Nd4 12.Rb1 Nxf3+ 13.Bxf3



13...Ra7!?!N

13...Rb8 - 100/12

14.Na4 Ba2!? 15.Rb2

15.Ra1 Nxa4 16.Qxa4 Bd5 17.Be4 f5 18.Bxd5+ Qxd5 19.Bb2 Raa8 20.Rfc1 Bd6 21.Qc4 Qxc4 22.Rxc4²

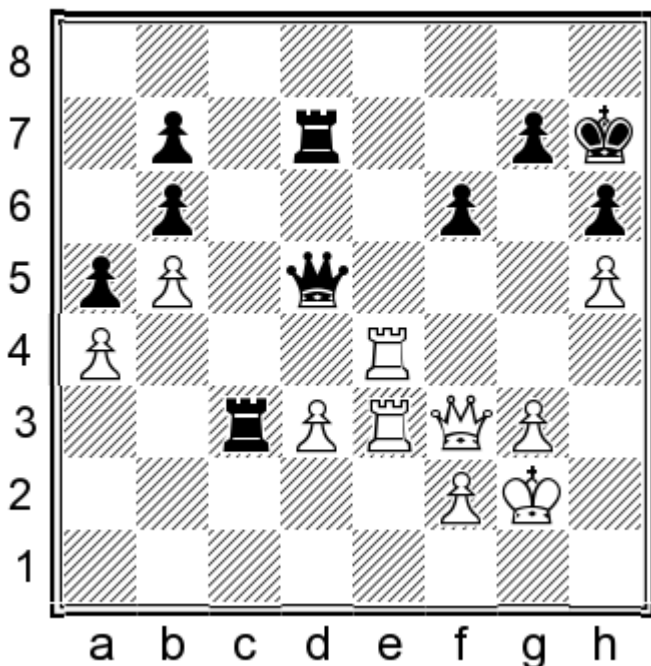
15...Bd5 16.Nxb6 Bxf3

16...cxb6 17.Bxd5 Qxd5 18.a4 Bc5 19.Qb3 Qxb3 20.Rxb3 Raa8 21.Rc3 Rfc8 22.Bb2 Bd4 23.Rxc8+ Rxc8 24.Rc1 Rxc1+ 25.Bxc1 Kf8 =

17.exf3 cxb6 18.Re2 Qd5 19.f4 Bd6 20.fxe5 Bxe5 21.a4 Raa8 22.Be3 Bd4 23.Bxd4 Qxd4 24.Re4 Qd5 25.Qe2 Rad8 26.Rd1 h6 27.h4 Rd6 28.Rc1 Rd7

28...Qxd3 29.Qxd3 Rxd3 30.Rc7 Rfd8 31.Ree7 Rf3 32.Kg2 Rf6 33.Rcd7 Rc8 34.Rc7 Rd8 =

29.Rcc4 Kh7 30.Re3 Rfd8 31.h5 f6 32.Rce4 Rc7 33.Qf3 Rdd7 34.Kg2 Rc3



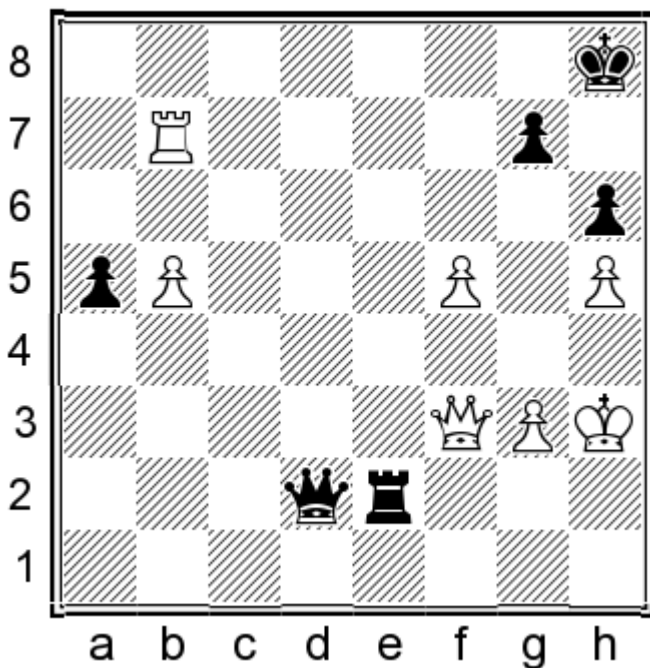
35.Re6

35.Qg4!? Re7!? (35...f5?! 36.Qg6+ Kg8 37.Rf3 Rf7 (37...fxe4 38.Qe8+ Kh7 39.Rf8 exd3+ 40.Kh2 +-) 38.Re8+ Rf8 39.Rxf8+ Kxf8 40.Qxf5+ Qxf5 41.Rxf5+ Ke8 42.Rd5 Ke7 ±) 36.Rf3 Rxe4 37.dxe4 Qd4 38.Rxc3 Qxc3 39.Qf5+ Kh8 40.Qd7 Qc4 41.Qxb7 Qxa4 42.e5 fxe5 43.Qxb6 Qe4+ 44.Kh2 Qf3 45.Qc5 a4 46.b6 a3 47.Qc8+ Kh7 48.Qc2+ e4 49.b7 a2 50.Qxa2 Qxh5+ 51.Kg1 Qd1+ 52.Kh2 Qh5+ =

35...Rxd3 36.Rxb6 Rxe3 37.fxe3

37.Qxd5!? Rxc3+ 38.fxc3 Rxd5 39.Rxb7 Rd4 40.Ra7 Rxa4 41.Kf3 f5 42.Ra8 Ra3+ 43.Kf4 a4 44.b6 Rb3 45.Rxa4 Rxb6 46.Kxf5 =

37...Qd3 38.e4 Qc2+ 39.Kh3 Rd2 40.Qf5+ Kh8 41.Rxb7 Rh2+ 42.Kg4 Qd1+ 43.Qf3 f5+! 44.exf5 Qxa4+ 45.Qf4 Qd1+ 46.Qf3 Re2! 47.Kh3™ Qd2



48.Rb8+?

48.Qh1™ Qd3 49.Rf7 Re3 50.Rf8+ Kh7 51.Qg2 Qd6 52.Qf2 Ra3 53.Re8 Qd1
54.Re1 Qxh5+ 55.Kg2 Qf7³

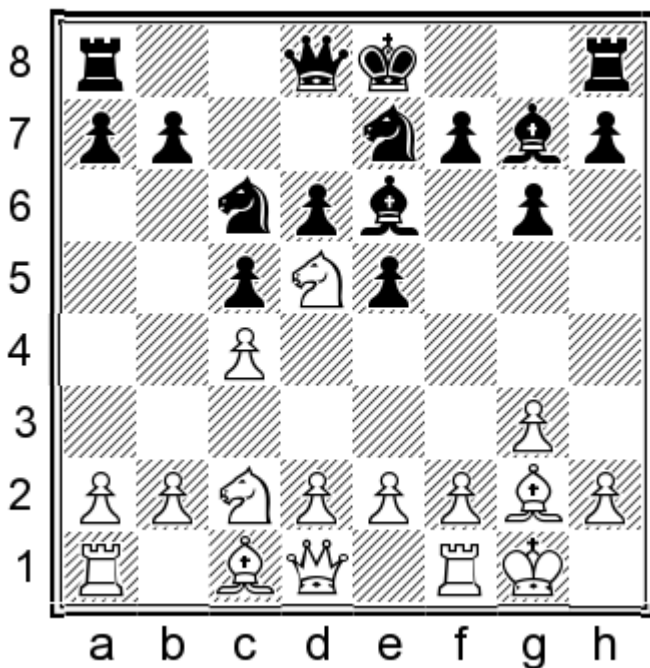
**48...Kh7 49.Qf4 Qe1 50.Qf3 Re3 51.Qg2 Qd1 52.Kh4 Re1 53.g4 Rh1+
54.Kg3 Rg1 55.Rc8 Rxg2+ 56.Kxg2 Qxg4+ 0-1**

9. * A37

Abramovic, Bosko (2333) - Petrov, Martin (2519)
Beograd 148/9, 2021

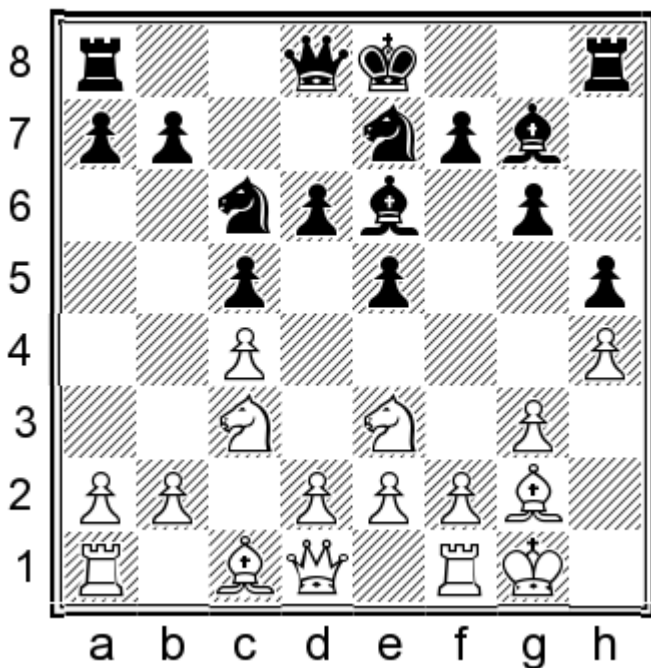
**1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.O-O Bg7 5.c4 e5 6.Nc3 Nge7 7.Ne1 d6 8.Nc2
Be6 9.Ne3**

9.Nd5



9...Rb8! 10.d3 (10.Nce3 b5 11.d3 (11.cxb5?! Rxb5 12.Nxe7 (12.Qa4?! Ra5
 (12...Nd4 13.Nxe7 Kxe7 14.Qxa7+ Qd7 15.Nd5+ Bxd5 16.Qxd7+ Kxd7
 17.Bxd5 Nxe2+ 18.Kg2 Rb4f (18...Nxc1 19.Rfxc1 Rxb2 20.Rd1 e4 21.a4,,))
 13.Qd1 h5f) 12...Nxe7 13.Qa4 Qa5f) 11...O-O∞)9.d3 d5 - 96/(26)

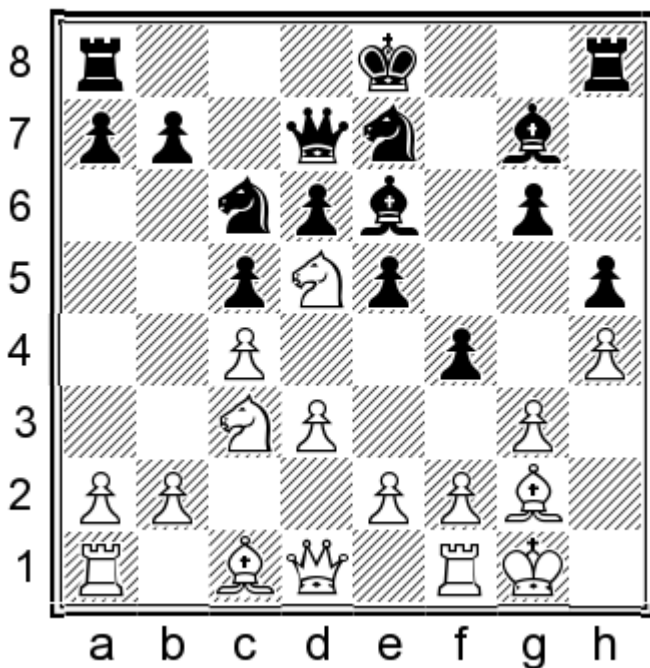
9...h5!? 10.h4



10.h3 Qd7 11.Kh2 O-O-O!?!; 10.Ned5 h4 11.d3 Qd7 12.Qa4 (12.Re1?! Bh3 13.Bh1 hxc3 14.hxc3 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 f5f) 12...Rb8 13.Bg5 ∞ (13.Nxe7?! Kxe7!³)

10...f5N

10...Qd7 - 148/(9) 11.d3 f5 12.Ned5 f4

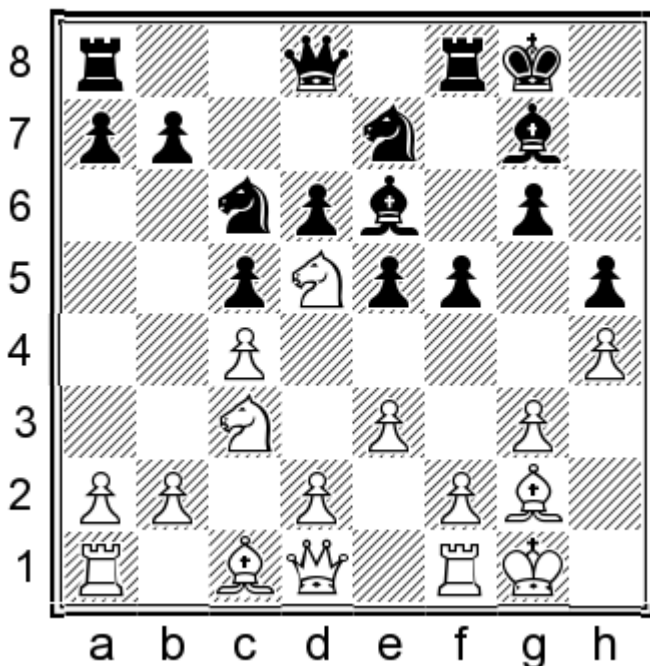


13.Kh2 (13.e3 Bg4 14.f3 Be6 15.exf4 Nf5 16.Kh2 O-O©) 13...O-O 14.Rb1 Nd4³ Vastrukhin,O (2401) -Grandelius,N (2663) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(9) 2020

11.Ned5 O-O

11...f4!? 12.e3 (12.gxf4? Nf5μ) 12...O-O∞

12.e3



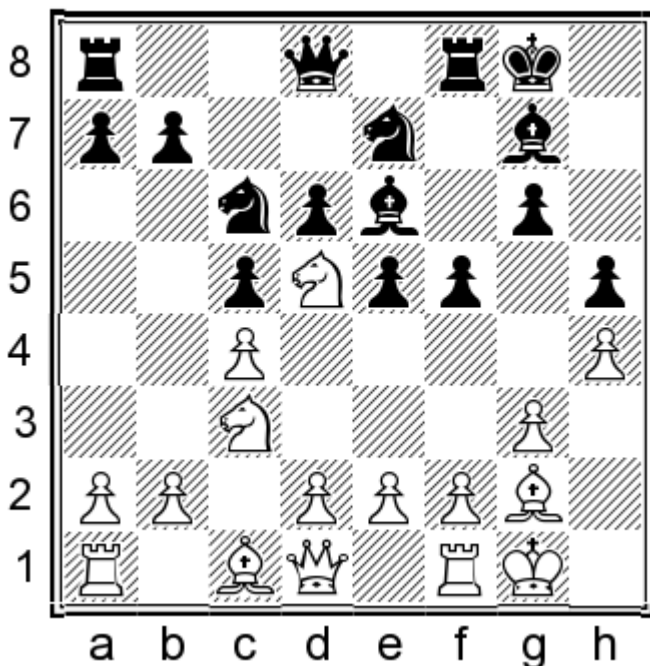
12...f4! 13.exf4 exf4 14.Nxf4 Rxf4! 15.gxf4 Nf5 16.d3 Nxh4 17.Re1 Nd4
 17...Bg4 18.Bd5+ Kh8 19.f3 Bd7©
 18.Rxe6 Nxe6 19.Bxb7 Nd4 20.Be3 Rb8 21.Bd5+ Kh8 ∞ 0-1

10. A37

Abramovic, Bosko (2333) - Tadic, Stefan (2416)

Beograd 148/10, 2021

1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.O-O Bg7 5.c4 e5 6.Nc3 Nge7 7.Ne1 d6 8.Nc2
 Be6 9.Ne3 h5!? 10.h4 O-O 11.Ned5 f5



12.d3N

12.e3 - 148/9

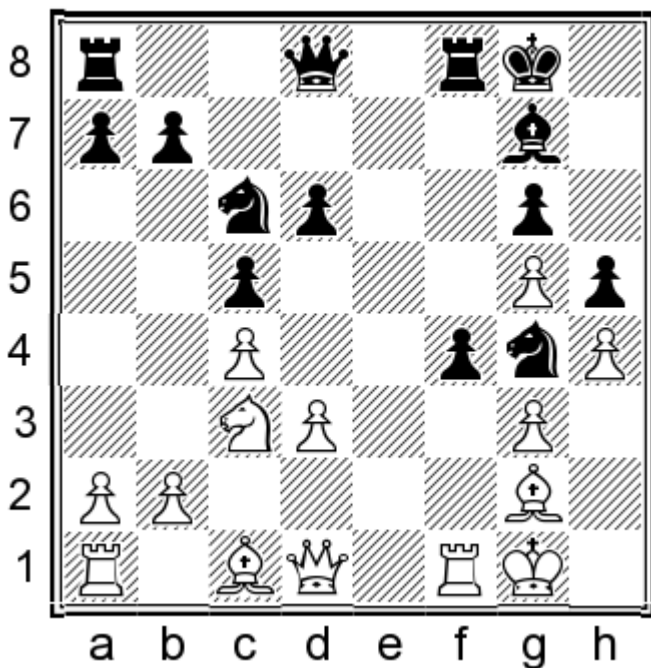
12...f4 13.e3? Bg4 14.f3 Nxd5 15.fxg4

15.cxd5? fxg3 ... Qh4-+

15...Nf6?!

15...Nxc3! 16.bxc3 fxg3 17.Rxf8+ (17.g5? e4! 18.Bxe4 Qd7!-+) 17...Qxf8
 18.Bd5+ (18.Qe1 e4!µ) 18...Kh8 19.Qf3 e4 (19...Qxf3 20.Bxf3 Rf8 21.Bxc6!
 bxc6 22.e4 Rf2 23.Be3 Rf3 (23...Rb2 24.Bc1! Rc2 25.Bg5 Rxc3 26.Rb1,,)
 24.Bg5 Rxd3 25.Rb1,,) 20.Bxe4 Qxf3 21.Bxf3 Ne5µ 22.Bxb7 Rb8 23.Be4
 Nf3+! 24.Bxf3 Bxc3 25.Bb2 Rxb2 26.gxh5 gxh5 27.Bxh5 Rc2 28.Rb1 Rxa2
 ... a5-a4-+

16.g5 Ng4 17.exf4 exf4



18.Bd5+?!

18.Bxf4! Bd4+ (18...Qd7 19.Qd2 ±) 19.Kh1 Nf2+ 20.Rxf2 Bxf2 21.Ne4 Bd4 22.Bxd6 Re8 23.Bf4 ±

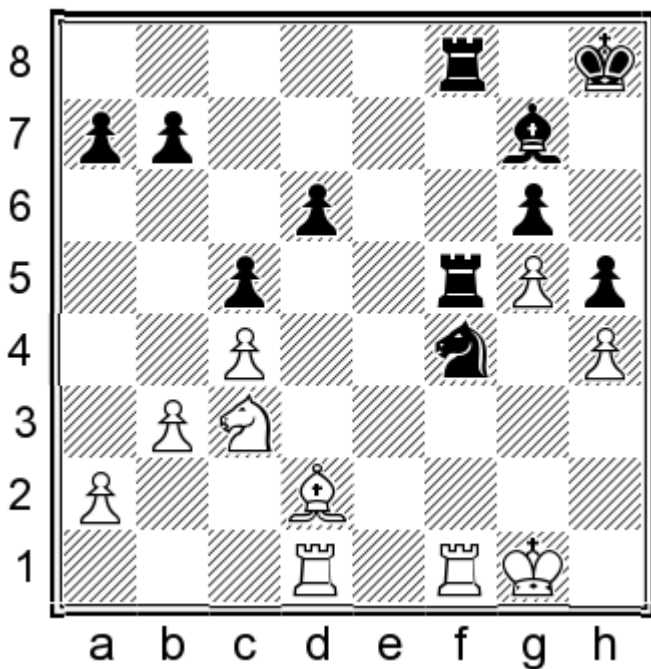
18...Kh8 19.gxf4

19.Bxf4 Bd4+ 20.Kh1 Qd7!© 21.Qd2 Ne3! 22.Rfe1 (22.Bxe3? Qh3+-+) 22...Rae8 23.Bxe3 Rxe3 24.Rxe3 Qh3+ 25.Qh2 Rf1+ 26.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 27.Qg1 Qh3+=

19...Qd7 20.Be4 Ne7 21.Bd2 Nf5 22.Bxf5 Qxf5 23.Qf3 Ne5! 24.Qe4 Nxd3 25.Qxf5 Rxf5 26.b3?

26.Ne4! Bd4+ 27.Kg2 d5 28.Ng3 dxc4 29.Nxf5 gxf5 30.Bc3 Re8³ (30...Nxb2 31.Bxb2 Bxb2 32.Rad1 c3 33.Rd5 b6 34.Rf2 ∞)

26...Raf8μ 27.Rad1 Nxf4

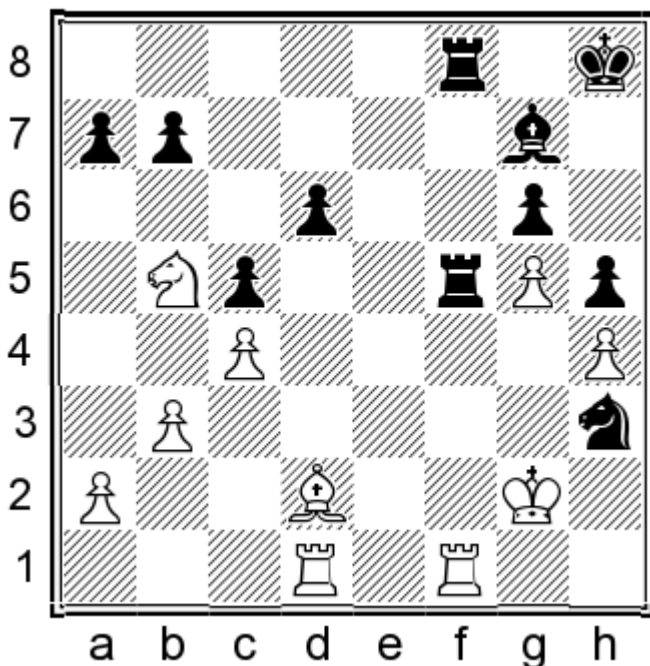


28.Nb5?

28.Ne4 d5 29.Nf6 (29.cxd5 Bd4+ 30.Kh1 Nxd5-+) 29...Ne2+ 30.Kg2 Rxf1
31.Kxf1 Ng3+ 32.Kg2 Nf5μ

28...Be5

28...Nh3+! 29.Kg2



29...Rf2+! 30.Rxf2 Rxf2+ 31.Kxh3 Be5 32.Rh1 Rxd2 33.Nxa7 Rxa2
34.Nc8 Kg7-+

29.Bxf4 Rxf4 30.Rxf4 Rxf4 31.Nxd6 Kg8

31...b6 32.Kg2 Kg8 33.Rd5 Rg4+ 34.Kf3 Bh2 35.Nc8 ∞

32.Rd5

32.Nxb7 Bd4+ 33.Kg2 Rxh4³

**32...Bd4+ 33.Kg2 b6 34.Nc8 Rf2+ 35.Kg3 Rxa2 36.Rd8+ Kf7 37.Rd7+ Ke8
38.Rxa7 Rb2**

38...Rxa7 39.Nxa7 Be5+ 40.Kf3 Kd7 41.Nb5 Ke6 42.Na7 =

**39.Kf3 Rxb3+ 40.Ke4 Rh3 41.Kd5 Rxh4 42.Nd6+ Kf8 43.Ra8+ Kg7
44.Ra7+ Kf8 45.Ke6 Kg8 1/2-1/2**

11. A46

So, Wesley (2770) - Duda, Jan Krzysztof (2729)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/11, 2021

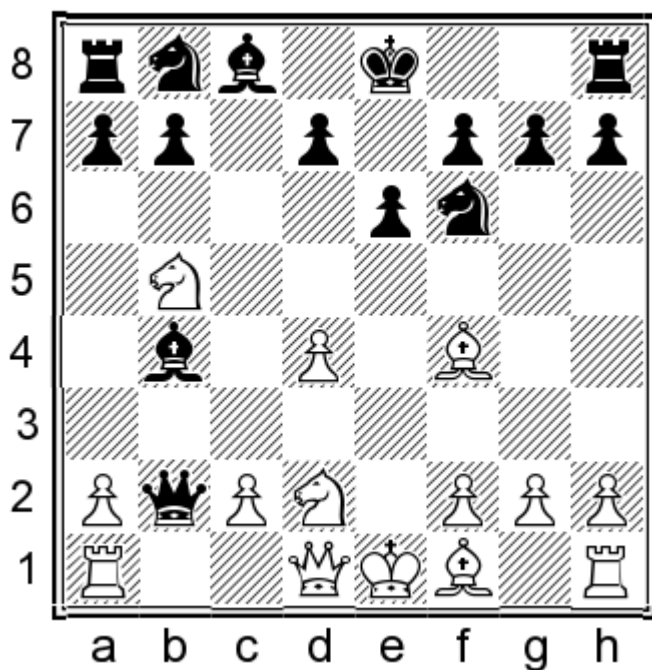
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 Qb6 5.Nc3 cxd4

5...a6 - 49/78

6.exd4 Qxb2?

6...Bb4; 6...Be7

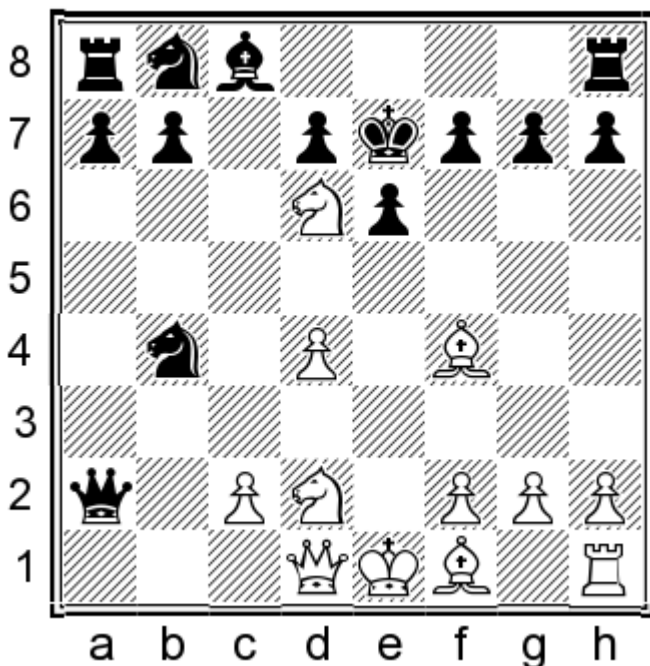
7.Nb5 Bb4+ 8.Nd2



8...Nd5N

8...Na6? 9.Rb1 Bxd2+ (9...Qxa2 10.c3 Be7 11.Nc4 ... Ra1+-) 10.Bxd2 Qxa2
11.Bc4! Qxc4 12.Nd6+ +-

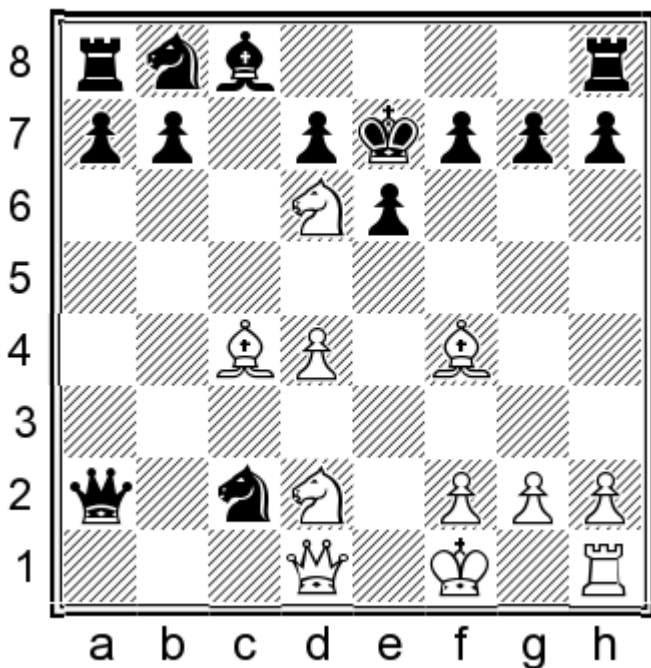
9.Rb1 Qxa2 10.Rxb4 Nxb4 11.Nd6+ Ke7



12.Bc4?

12.Qh5!! N8c6 (12...Rf8? 13.Qg5+ +-) 13.Qxf7+ Kd8 14.Qxg7 Nxc2+
 (14...Qa1+? 15.Ke2 Nxd4+ 16.Qxd4! Qxd4 17.Bg5+ Kc7 18.Nb5+ +-)
 15.Kd1! Qa1+ 16.Ke2! (16.Kxc2? Nb4+ 17.Kb3 Qa2+ 18.Kxb4 Qb2+ 19.Kc4
 (19.Nb3?? a5+ 20.Kc4 Qc2+ 21.Kb5 Qxb3+ 22.Kc5 b6#) 19...Qc2+=)
 16...N6xd4+ 17.Kd3 Nb4+ 18.Ke4 Qe1+ 19.Be3 +-

12...Nxc2+ 13.Kf1



13.Ke2 Nxd4+ 14.Kd3 Qa3+ 15.Kxd4 (15.Nb3 Nxb3 16.Bxb3 b6- +)
 15...Nc6+ 16.Ke4 f5+ 17.Nxf5+ exf5+ 18.Kxf5 Rf8+ 19.Kg5 Qc5+ 20.Kg4
 Rxf4+ 21.Kxf4 Qe5+ 22.Kf3 Nd4+ 23.Kg4 d5+ 24.Kh4 Qf6+ 25.Kg3 Qg5+-
 +

13...Qa1!- + 14.Qxa1 Nxa1 15.Ke2

15.Bd3 Nc6

15...Nc2 16.d5 Na6 17.Rc1 Nab4 18.Nf3 b6 19.Bb3 Ba6+ 20.Kd2 Nd3 0-1

A50-A74

12. * A50

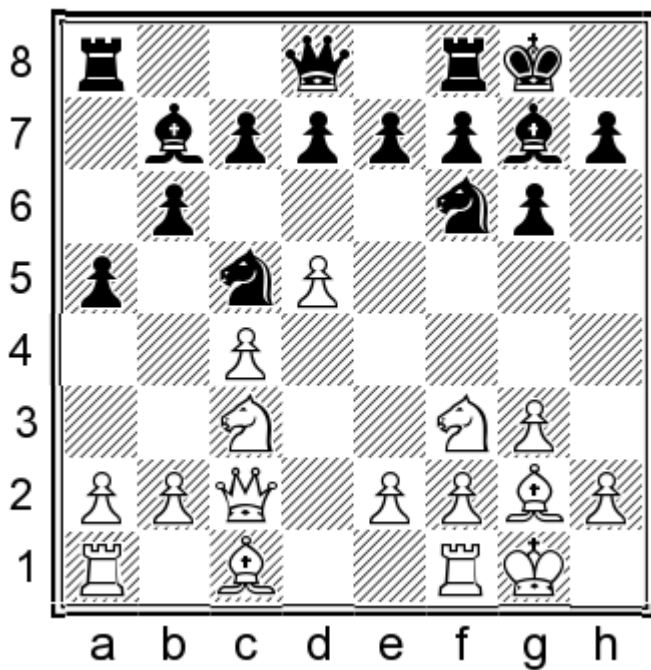
Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2774) - Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2767)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/12, 2021

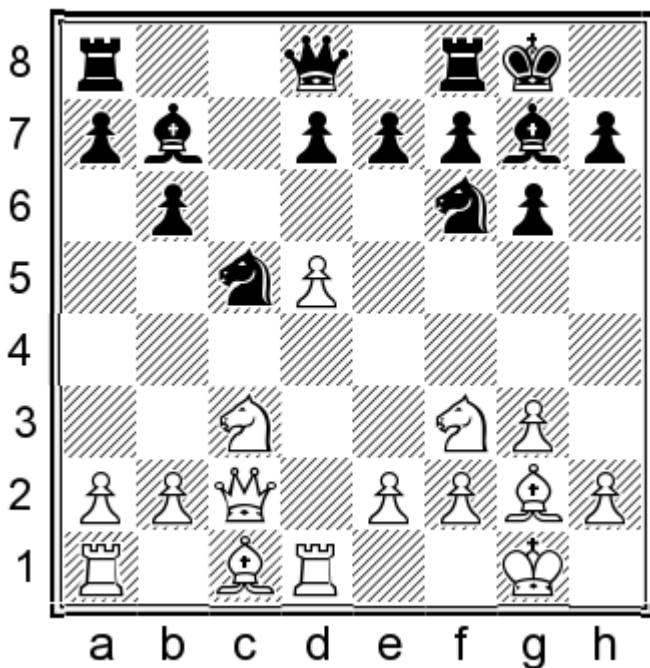
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2 g6 5.d4 Bg7 6.d5 Na6 7.Nc3 Nc5 8.O-O
O-O 9.Qc2

9.Nd4 - 146/20

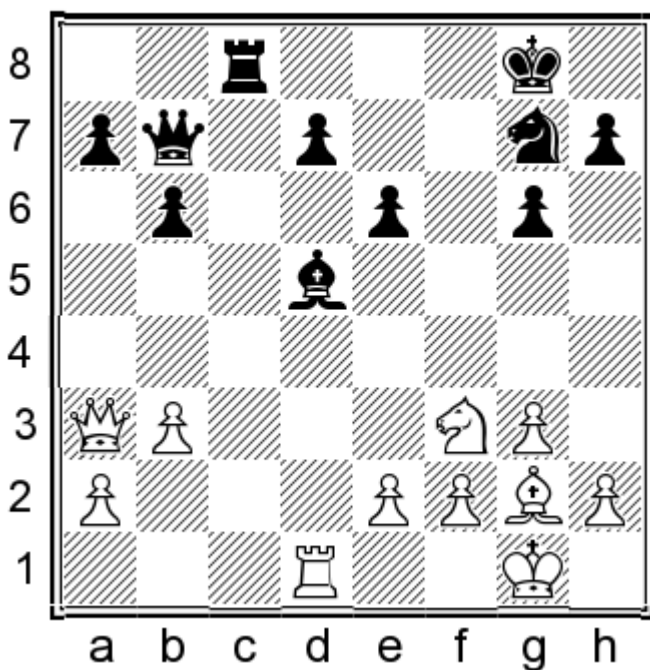
9...a5



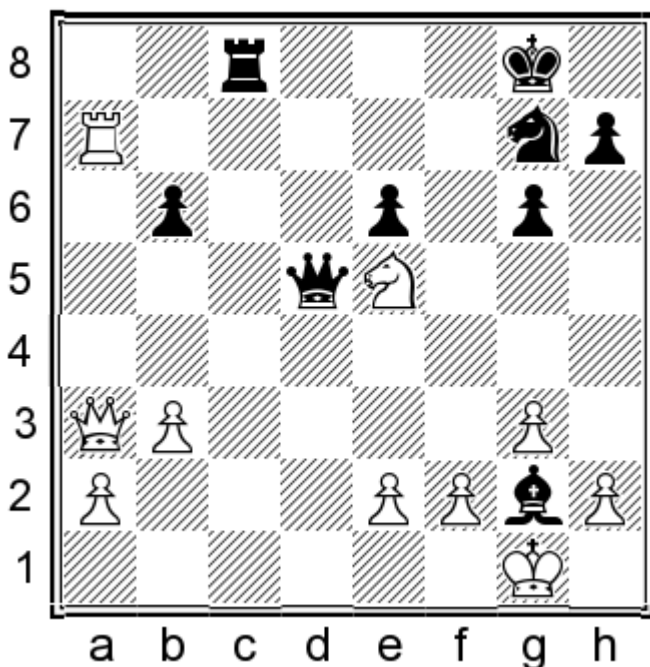
9...c6 10.Rd1 cxd5 11.cxd5



11...e6N (11...Re8) 12.dxe6 fxe6 13.Be3 Rc8 14.Bd4 Nce4 15.Qa4 Nxc3
 16.Bxc3 Bc6 17.Qa3 Qc7 18.Rac1 Qb7 19.Be5 Bd5 20.b3 Nh5? (20...Rc6
 21.h4f) 21.Bxg7 Nxg7 22.Rxc8 Rxc8



23.Rc1² Fressinet,L (2638)-Dubov,D (2710) chess24.com (Int.-m/2-bltz)
 148/(12) 2021 (23.Ne5! Bxg2 (23...Qc7 24.Nxd7! Qxd7 (24...Qc2 25.Rd3 ±
 ΔQxe2 26.Bf1 Qe1 27.Nf6+ Kh8 28.Qe7 + -) 25.e4 ±) 24.Rxd7 Qa8
 (24...Qe4 25.Rxg7+ Kxg7 (25...Kh8 26.Rc7! + -) 26.Qe7+ Kh6 (26...Kg8
 27.Qxe6+ Kg7 28.Qd7+ Kh6 (28...Kf6 29.Ng4+ Kg5 30.h4+ Kh5 31.Nf6+ + -)
 29.Nf7+ Kh5 30.Qxc8 + -) 27.Nf7+ Kg7 28.Ng5+ + -) 25.Rxa7 Qd5



26.Nd7! Qd4 (26...Kh8 27.Nxb6 + -) 27.Rc7! (27.Kxg2? Qe4+ 28.Kg1
 Qb1+=) 27...Re8 28.Kxg2 + -)

10.Rd1N

10.e4

10...Ne8 11.Bf4

11.e4 Nd6!? 12.Nd2 f5,,

11...Nd6

11...d6!? 12.Nd4 Qd7 ∞

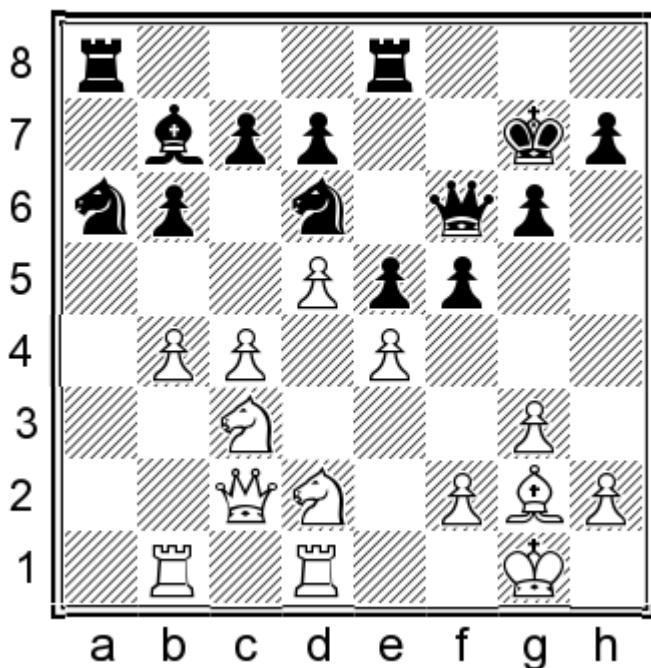
12.b3 Re8

12...f5 13.Nd4f

13.Be5!? e6 14.Bxg7

14.Bxd6!? cxd6 15.Nd4f × Bb7

14...Kxg7 15.Rab1 e5 16.Nd2 f5 17.a3 Qf6 18.b4 axb4 19.axb4 Na6 20.e4



20.c5 bxc5 21.bxc5 Nxc5 22.Nb5 Nxb5 23.Qxc5 Nd6 24.Qxc7 ±

20...f4!? 21.Ne2

21.Na4!? Nf7 22.c5 h5,,

21...fxg3 22.fxg3

22.hxg3 c5! 23.dxc6 dxc6 24.c5 bxc5 25.bxc5 Nb5 26.Nc4 Bc8 (26...Nxc5?
27.Nb6) 27.f4 Bg4!? 28.Nxe5 Rxe5 29.fxe5 Qxe5©

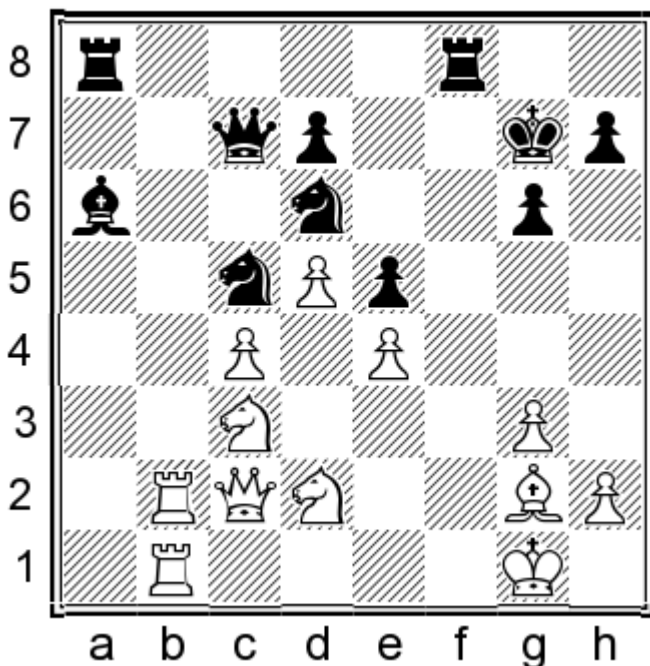
22...c5 23.bxc5

23.dxc6 dxc6 24.c5 bxc5 25.bxc5 Nb5 26.Nc4 Qe7 27.Nd6 Na3 28.Qc3
Nxb1 29.Rxb1 Reb8 30.Bh3©

23...Nxc5 24.Rxb6 Qd8 25.Rdb1

25.Rxd6?! Qc7 26.Rxd7+ Qxd7 27.Nc3 ∞

25...Qc7 26.Nc3 Rf8© 27.R6b2 Ba6



28.Nd1

28.Nb5?! Bxb5 29.cxb5 Qb6 30.Kh1 Ra3 31.Bf1TM Re3 (31...h5!?) 32.Rb4 Rf2 33.Nc4! Rxc2 34.Nxb6 Ndx6 35.Nc4 Rf3 36.Bg2 Rfc3 37.Bxe4 Nxe4 38.b6 Nf2+ 39.Kg1 Nh3+ 40.Kh1 (40.Kf1 Rf2+ 41.Ke1 Rcc2 42.R4b2 Rfe2+ 43.Kf1 Rf2+ 44.Ke1 =) 40...Nf2+=

28...Rab8 29.Rxb8 Rxb8 30.Rxb8 Qxb8 31.Qb2 Qxb2 32.Nxb2² Nc8! 33.Kf2 Nb6 34.Bf1 d6 35.Ke3 Kf6 36.Be2 Ke7 37.Nb1

37.Nd3 Nxd3 38.Bxd3 Na4 39.Nb3 Bc8 40.Be2 h6©

37...Bc8 38.Nc3 Bd7 39.Bd1 Be8 40.Bc2 Bd7 41.Bd1 Be8 42.Bc2 1/2-1/2

13. !N A58

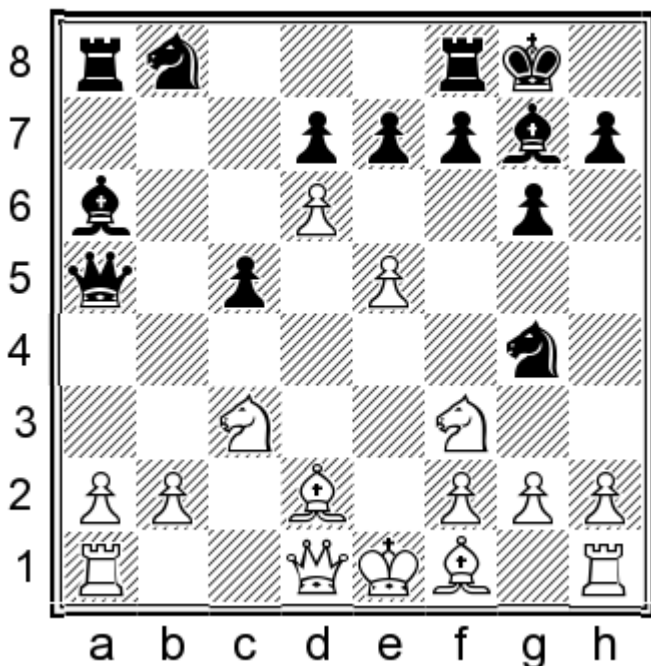
Milanovic, Danilo (2471) - Perunovic, Milos (2568)

Beograd (blitz) 148/13, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.e4 O-O 8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Bxa6 10.e5!?

10.Be2 - 146/22

10...Ng4 11.d6

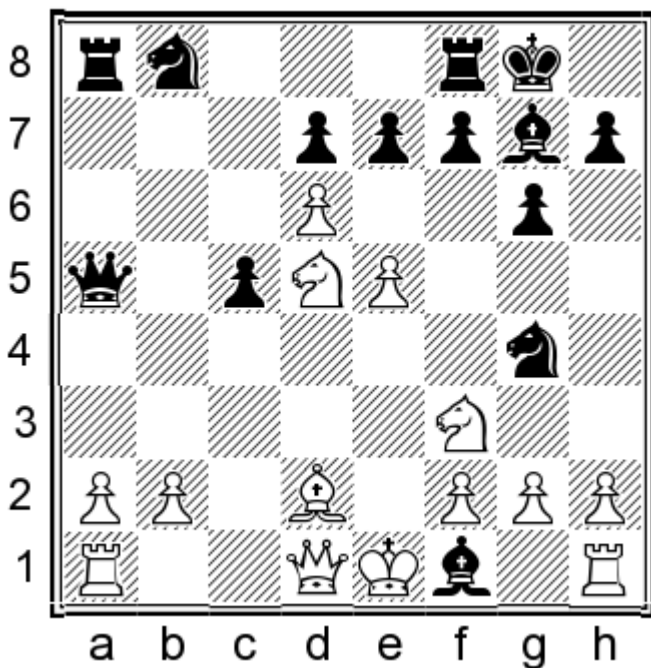


11.Ne4 Qb6 12.Bxa6 Qxa6 13.Nxc5 (13.Bc3 d6f) 13...Qc4 14.Rc1 Qxd5
 15.Bf4 (15.O-O Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Bxe5 ∞) 15...Qxd1+ 16.Rxd1 d6 17.exd6 exd6
 18.Bxd6 (18.Nd3 Re8+ 19.Kf1 Rxa2 20.Bxd6 Bxb2 =) 18...Re8+ 19.Kf1
 Bxb2 (19...Rd8!? ∞) 20.a4 Nc6 =

11...Bxf1!N

11...exd6 12.Nd5 Qd8 13.Bg5 (13.exd6?! Re8+ 14.Ne7+ Rxe7+ 15.dxe7
 Qxe7+ 16.Be2 Nc6 17.Kf1 Bxb2 18.Rb1 Bxe2+ 19.Qxe2 Qxe2+ 20.Kxe2
 Rxa2μ) 13...Qa5+ (13...f6!? 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.Nxf6+ Nxf6 16.Qxd6 Qa5+
 17.Bd2 Re8+ 18.Kd1 Qa4+ 19.b3 Qc6 20.Qxc6 Nxc6 21.Bxa6 Rxa6©)
 14.Bd2 Qd8 15.Bg5 Qa5+ 16.Bd2 =

12.Nd5



12.dxe7 Bxg2 13.exf8=Q+ Kxf8 14.Rg1 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 Nxe5 16.Qd5 Nbc6μ

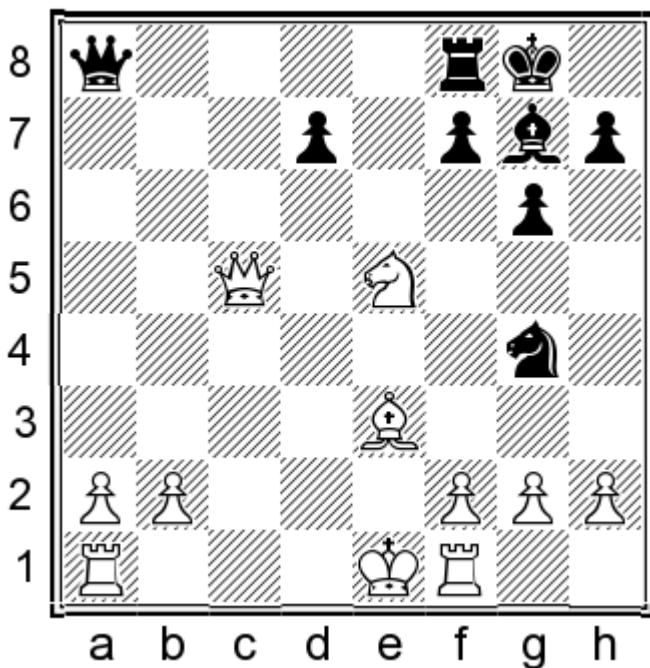
12...Qb5! 13.Nc7

13.dxe7 Bxg2 14.Rg1 (14.exf8=Q+ Kxf8 15.Rg1 Bxf3 16.Qxf3 Nxe5 17.Qe2 Qb7 18.f4 Qxd5 19.fxe5 Nc6- +) 14...Re8 15.Rxg2 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Bxe5μ

13...Qd3 14.Rxf1 exd6 15.Nxa8 Qe4+ 16.Be3 Qxa8 17.Qxd6

17.h3?! Nxe5 18.Nxe5 Bxe5 19.Qd2 Nc6 20.f4 Bf6 21.Kf2 Rb8 22.Rfb1 Nd4μ

17...Nc6 18.Qxc5 Nxc5 19.Nxe5



19...Nxe5

19...Bxe5 20.Rd1 Qxg2 21.Qd5 Qh3 ∞

20.Rd1 Qxg2 ∞ 1/2-1/2

14. A62

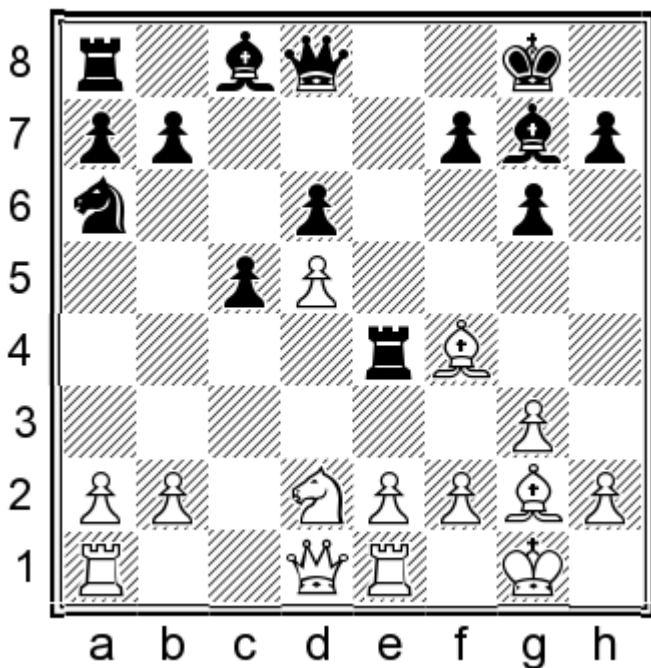
Wojtaszek, Radosław (2694) - Socko, Bartosz (2618)

Polska (ch-m/1) 148/14, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Bg2 Bg7 8.Nf3 O-O 9.O-O Re8 10.Re1 Na6 11.Bf4 Ne4?!

11...Bf5 - 133/31

12.Nxe4 Rxe4 13.Nd2



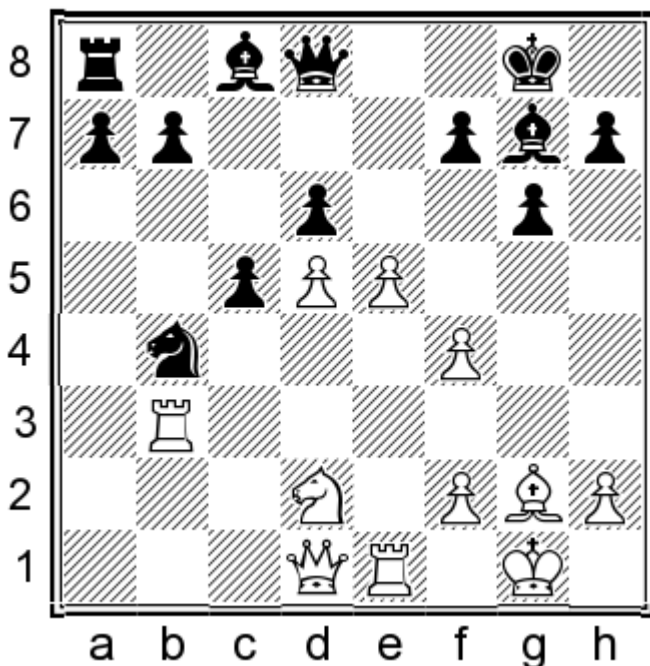
13...Rxf4?

13...Rb4 14.e4 (14.a3 Rxf4 15.gxf4 Bxb2 16.Ra2 (16.Rb1 Bxa3 17.e4 Bb4 18.e5 Nc7∞) 16...Bg7 17.e4 b5 18.e5 Bf5∞) 14...Rxb2 (14...g5 15.Be3 Rxb2 16.Qh5 h6 17.h4±) 15.Nc4 Rb4 16.Nxd6 g5 17.Qh5 gxf4 18.e5 Qf8 19.Be4 h6 20.Rad1±

14.gxf4 Bxb2 15.Rb1 Bg7 16.e4 Nb4

16...Bh6 17.e5 Bxf4 18.e6 Qe7 19.Nc4 Nc7 20.Qf3 g5 21.h4±

17.Rb3 Nxa2 18.e5 Nb4



18...b5 19.Ra3 Nb4 20.Ne4 dxe5 21.d6 +- -

19.e6 Qe7 20.f5N

20.Ne4 fxe6 (20...f5 21.Nxc5! +- -) 21.dxe6 d5 22.Ng5 +- -

20...gxf5 21.Nc4 fxe6 22.dxe6 Bxe6

22...d5 23.Bxd5 Nxd5 24.Qxd5 +- -

23.Rbe3 Qh4 24.Nxd6 Bf7 25.Nxf7 Kxf7 26.Qd7+ Kg8 27.Rg3 Qf6 28.Re7 1-0

15. A64

Krasenkow, Michal (2597) - Kempinski, Robert (2561)

Polska (ch-m/2) 148/15, 2021

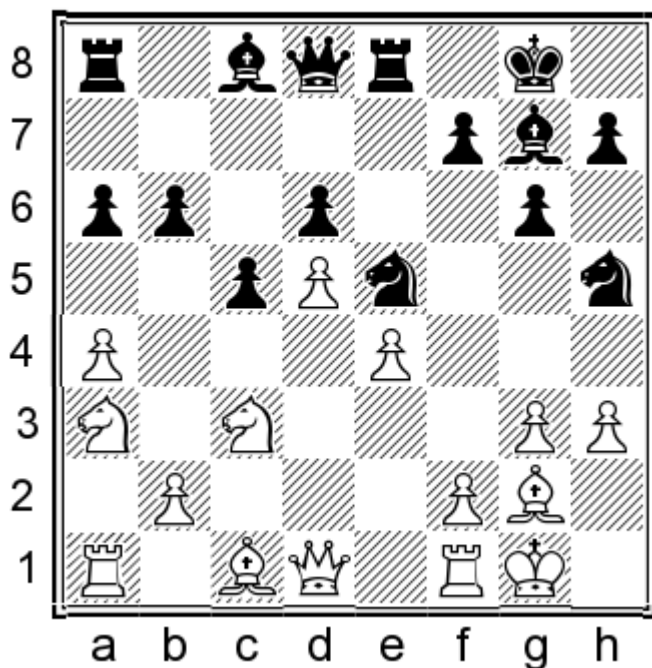
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Bg2 Bg7 8.Nf3 O-O 9.O-O Re8 10.Nd2 a6 11.a4 Nbd7 12.h3 b6!? 13.Nc4

13.f4 Rb8 (13...c4!? 14.Nxc4 Qc7 15.Nd2 Nc5 16.e4 Bd7©) 14.Nc4 Qc7 15.Na3 Nh5! 16.Kh2 (16.Qd3 c4! ∞) 16...Bxc3! 17.bxc3 Ndf6 18.g4 Bxg4 19.hxg4 Nxg4+ 20.Kg1 Ng3 21.e4 f5 ∞; 13.e4 Ne5 ∞; 13.Rb1 - 133/32

13...Ne5 14.Na3?!

14.Nxe5 Rxe5 15.Bf4 Re8 16.e4 Rb8 ∞

14...Nh5 15.e4?!



15.Rb1 g5!? 16.b4 (16.e4? g4 17.h4 f5μ) 16...g4 17.hxg4 Bxg4∞

15...b5! 16.axb5

16.g4 Qh4! 17.gxh5 Bxh3 18.Nc2 (18.h6? Bg4 19.hxg7 (19.f3 Nxf3+ 20.Rxf3 Bd4+ 21.Kf1 Qh2- +) 19...Bxd1 20.Nxd1 f5- +) 18...f5³

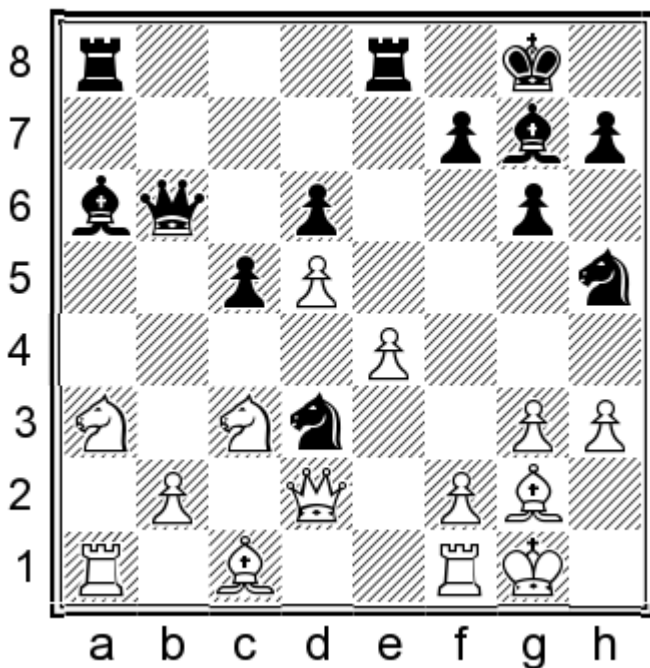
16...axb5 17.Ncxb5 Ba6 18.Nc3

18.Rb1 Qd7 19.g4 Nf6 20.Nc3 Qb7 21.f4 Nd3μ

18...Nd3

¹18...Bxf1 19.Qxf1 Qb6μ

19.Qd2 Qb6



20.Bf3N

20.Nc2 Nxb2 21.Rb1 Bxf1 22.Bxf1 Bxc3! 23.Qxc3 Nd1- +

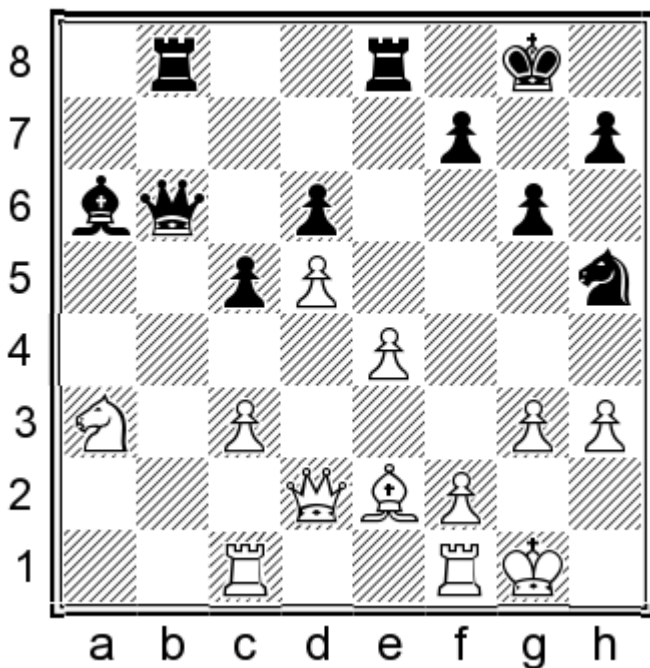
20...Rab8?

20...Nf6 21.Rb1 (21.Be2 Nxc1 22.Rfxcl Nxe4 23.Nxe4 Rxe4 24.Bxa6 (24.Nc4 Qb8μ) 24...Rxa6μ) 21...Qb3μ

21.Be2! Nxc1 22.Raxc1 Bxc3

22...Bd4 23.Kg2 Nf6 24.Bxa6 Qxa6 25.f3 Rb4f

23.bxc3



23...Nf6

23...Rxe4!? 24.Rb1 Rxe2 25.Rxb6 Rxb6 26.Qg5 Kg7∞

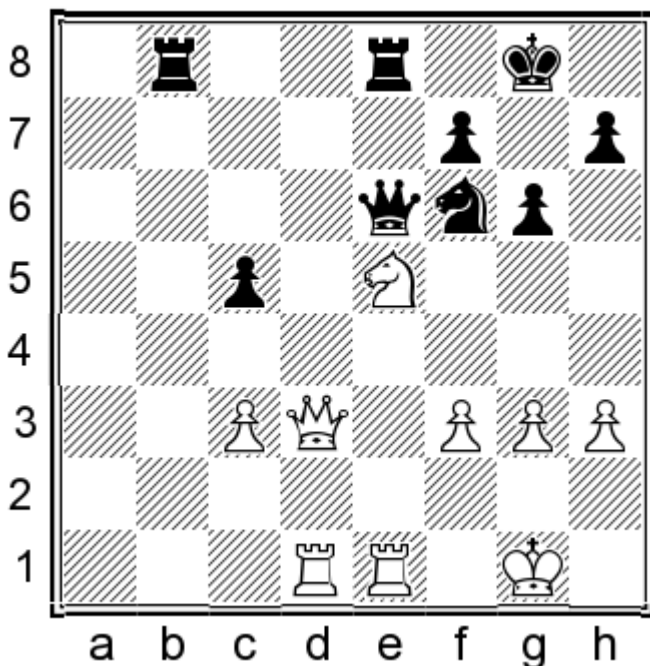
24.f3

24.Rb1 Qa5 25.Rxb8 Rxb8 26.Bxa6 Qxa3 27.Bd3 Rb2 28.Qf4 (28.Qc1 Nd7f)

28...Qxc3 29.Qxd6 Qxd3 30.Qxf6 Rb1 =

24...Bxe2 25.Qxe2 Nxd5 26.Nc4 Qa6 27.Rfe1 Nf6 28.Ra1 Qc6 29.Rad1 d5

30.exd5 Nxd5 31.Qd3 Nf6 32.Ne5 Qe6



32...Qc7 33.f4 Rb2 34.Ng4 Rxe1+ 35.Rxe1 Nxg4 36.hxg4 =

33.g4

33.Ng4 Qxe1+ 34.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 35.Kf2 Re6 =

33...Rb2 34.f4 Qa2 35.Qf3 Rd2 36.Rxd2

36.g5 Nh5 37.Ng4 Ree2 38.Rxe2 Rxd1+ 39.Kf2 Rd2 =

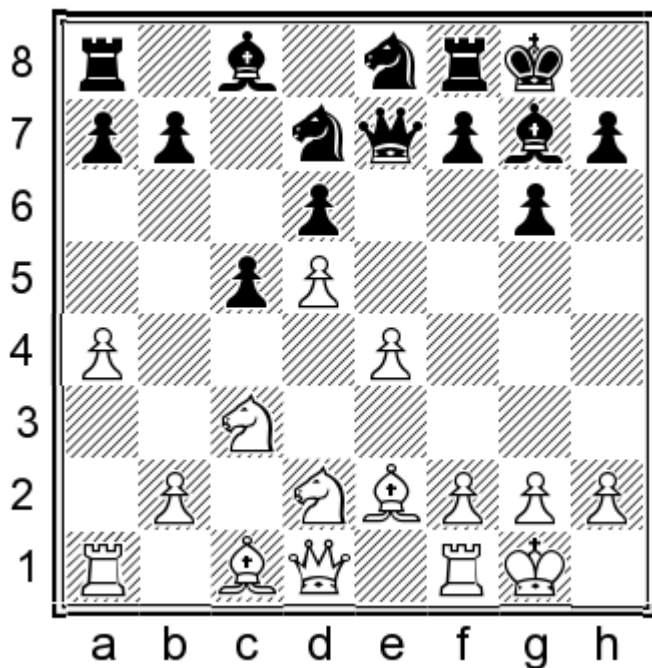
36...Qxd2 37.Re2 Qd5 38.Kf2 h6 39.h4 c4 40.g5 hxg5 41.hxg5 Qc5+ 42.Kf1 Nh5 43.Nd7 Qc8 44.Qg4 Ng3+ 45.Qxg3 Qxd7 46.Rxe8+ 1/2-1/2

16. A73

Kilgus, Georg (2461) - Lagarde, Maxime (2651)

Oesterreich 148/16, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 d6 5.Nc3 exd5 6.cxd5 g6 7.Nd2 Nbd7 8.e4 Bg7 9.Be2 O-O 10.O-O Qe7 11.a4 Ne8?!



11...Ne5 - 28/153

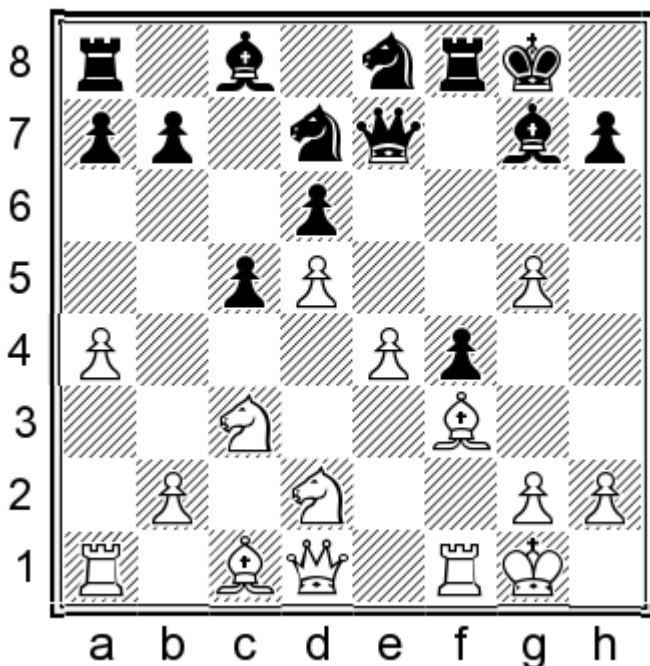
12.f4N

12.Re1

12...f5 13.Bf3 g5!?

13...Ndf6 14.Kh1 (14.Re1 Ng4! 15.Bxg4 fxg4 ∞) 14...Ng4 (14...fxe4 15.Ndx4 Nxe4 16.Nxe4 h6 17.Re1 Qf7 ±) 15.Nc4 b6²

14.fxg5 f4



15.Bh5

15.Bg4! Qxg5 16.Be6+ Kh8 17.Nf3 Qe7 18.Ne2 ±

15...Ne5 16.Nf3 c4 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.g6?

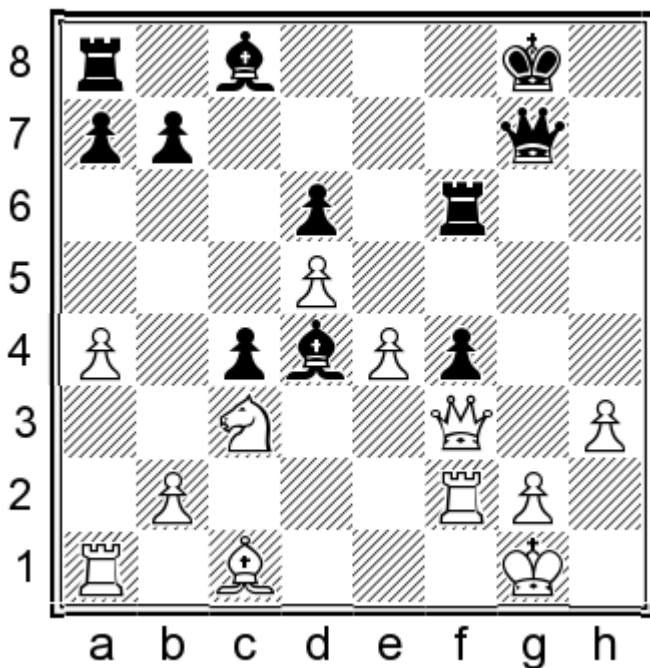
18.Ne2! Qxg5 19.Nxf4 Bxf4 (19...Ng7 20.Ne6! Rxf1+ 21.Qxf1 Qf6 22.Qxf6 Bxf6 23.Nxg7 Bd4+ 24.Kf1 Kxg7 ±) 20.Rxf4 Rxf4 21.g3 Ng7 22.Bf3 Ne6 23.Bg2 Qe5 24.gxf4 Nxf4 25.Bxf4 Qxf4 26.Qd4 ±

18...hxg6 19.Bxg6 Ng7 20.Bh5 Nxh5 21.Qxh5 Qg7 22.h3 Rf6 23.Qf3?

23.Ne2 Rh6 24.Qe8+ Kh7 25.Rxf4 (25.Nxf4 Bxh3 26.Qxa8 Bxf4 27.Rf2 Bxg2! - +) 25...Bxf4 26.Nxf4 Bxh3! 27.Qxa8 Bxg2 28.Nxg2 Rg6 29.Qxa7 (29.Be3 Rxc2+ 30.Kf1 Rh2- +) 29...Rxc2+ 30.Kf1 Qg4- +; 23.Rf2 Bd4 24.Ne2 Bxf2+ 25.Kxf2 Bd7μ

23...Bd4+ 24.Kh1?

24.Rf2



24...Bxh3! (24...Bd7 μ) 25.Qxh3 Rh6 26.Qf3 Rf8 27.Kf1 Bxf2 28.Kxf2 Rg6
 29.Bxf4 (29.Qh3 Rg3 30.Qh2 Qd4+ 31.Kf1 Rf7- +) 29...Rxc2+! 30.Ke3 Rg4
 31.Rf1 Rxc2 32.Qxf4 Rxf4 33.Rxf4- +

24...Bg4! 0-1

A75-A99

17. A77

Studer, Noel (2584) - Markoja, Boris (2442)

tornelo.com (Internet) 148/17, 2021

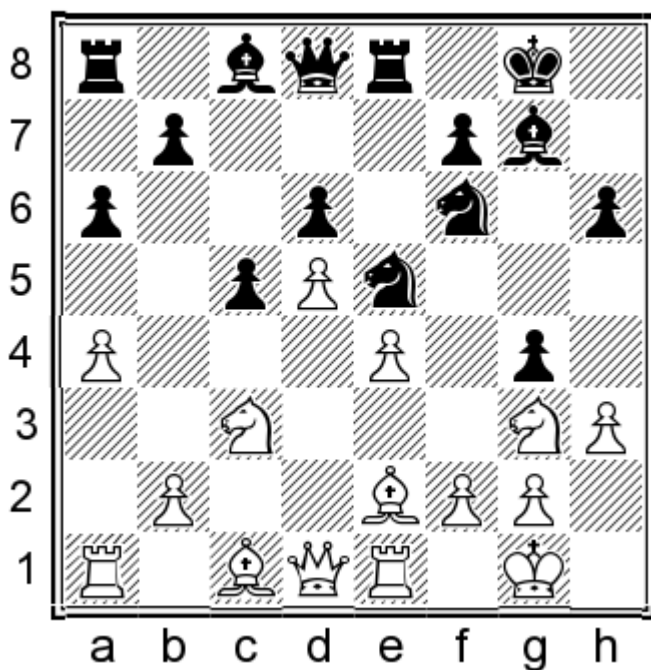
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Nd2 Nbd7 8.e4
a6 9.a4 Bg7 10.Be2 O-O 11.O-O Re8 12.h3 g5 13.Re1

13.Nc4

13...Ne5 14.Nf1 h6 15.Ng3

15.Ra3 - 141/(26)

15...g4



16.f4N

16.h4 Nh7 17.a5 Bd7 ∞

16...gxf3 17.Bxf3 Bd7

¹17...Nh7 18.Rf1 (18.Nh5 Qh4 19.Bf4 Nf6 ∞) 18...Qh4 19.Nce2 Nf6 ∞

18.Be2 c4 19.Be3

19.a5 b5 20.axb6 Qxb6+ 21.Kh2²

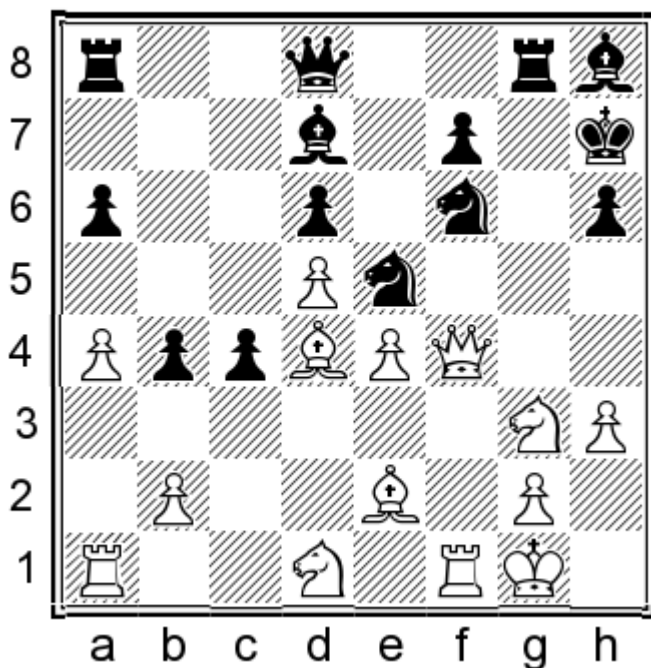
19...b5 20.Qd2 Kh7 21.Bd4?!

21.Rf1 Rg8 22.axb5 axb5 23.Rxa8 Qxa8 24.Bd4²

21...Rg8?!

21...b4! 22.Nd1 h5! 23.Ne3 (23.Nxh5? Nxh5 24.Bxh5 Qh4μ; 23.Bxh5? Nd3 24.Qg5 (24.Rf1? Nxh5 25.Rxf7 Kg8!- +) 24...Bh6 25.Qh4 Nxd5! 26.Qxd8 Rxd8μ; 23.Qg5 Ng6!μ) 23...Bh6 ∞

22.Rf1 b4 23.Nd1 Bh8 24.Qf4



24.Nf5 Bxf5 25.Rxf5 Nxe4 26.Qc2 Qh4 27.Nf2 Nd3! 28.Bxd3 cxd3 29.Qxd3 Rg3 ∞; 24.Bxe5! dxe5 25.Qe1 Qb6+ 26.Kh2 Qd4 27.Rc1 Rac8 28.Bh5! ±

24...Rxc3! 25.Qxc3

25.Bxe5 Qb6+ 26.Kh1 Rag8 27.Bxf6 Bxh3! 28.Bf3 Bxf6 29.Qxf6 Bxg2+ 30.Bxg2 Rxc2 31.Qxf7+ R8g7 32.Qf5+ Kh8 33.Nf2 Qe3 ∞

25...Nxe4 26.Qe3 f5 27.Nf2 Nxf2

27...Nc5!? ∞

28.Rxf2 Qg8?

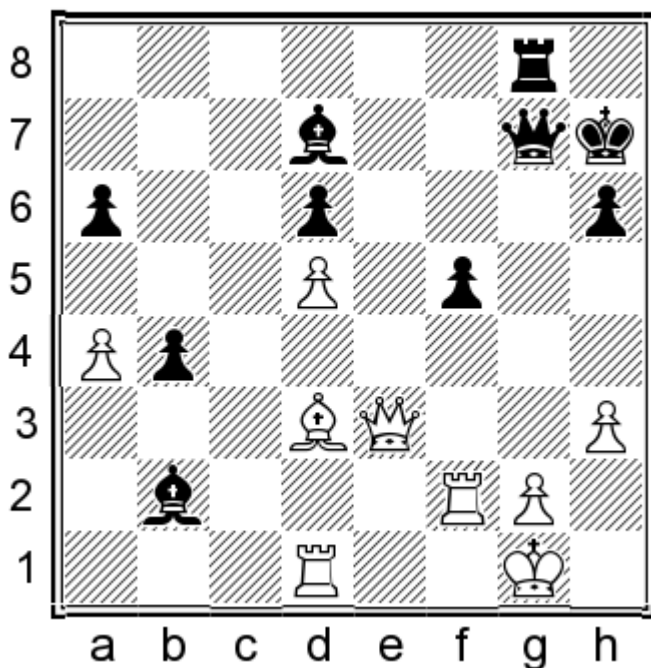
28...Qg5! 29.Rc1 (29.Raf1 a5 ∞) 29...Rc8 30.Kh1 (30.Qxc3 hxc3 31.Bxe5

Bxe5 32.Rxc4 Rxc4 33.Bxc4 Bd4 34.a5 (34.Bxa6 Bxa4 =) 34...Bc8 35.g3 Kg6 36.Kg2 Bxf2 37.Kxf2 Kf6 38.Ke3 Ke5 =) 30...Bf6 ∞

29.Bxe5?!

29.Bxc4! Re8 (29...Nxc4 30.Qe7+ Kg6 31.Qxd7 + - Bxd4 32.Qxf5+ Kg7 33.Qg4+) 30.Qb3 Ng4 (30...Nxc4 31.Bxh8 Re4 32.Bf6 + -; 30...Qg5 31.Rd1 + -) 31.Bxh8 Nxf2 32.Bd4 Ne4 33.Qxb4 + -

29...Bxe5 30.Bxc4 Qg7 31.Rd1 Bxb2 32.Bd3 Rg8



33.g4?!

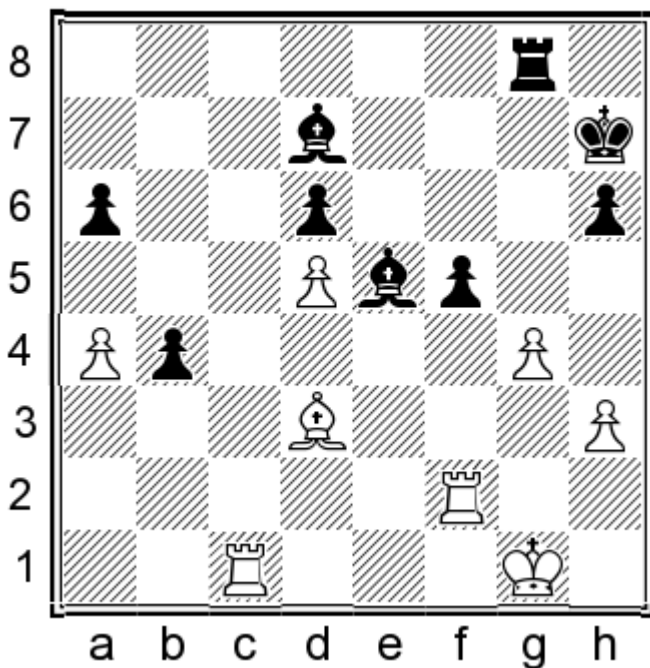
33.Qf4! Bxa4 (33...Be5 34.Qxb4 Qg3 35.Kf1 ±) 34.Bxf5+ Kh8 35.Rxb2 (35.Re1 Bd4 36.g4 Rf8 37.Re6 Rxf5! 38.Qxf5 Bd7 ∞) 35...Bxd1 36.Qxb4 Bf3 37.Be6 Bxg2 38.Bxg8 Bxd5+ 39.Kf1 Kxg8²

33...Qe5! 34.Qxe5

34.Qf3 Bd4 35.Bxf5+ Bxf5 36.Rxd4 Qxd4 37.Qxf5+ Kh8 38.Qe6 Kh7 ∞

34...Bxe5 35.Bxf5+

35.Rc1



35...Kh8! 36.Rc7 (36.Bxf5 Bxf5 37.Rxf5 b3 38.Rb1 Rb8 ∞) 36...Rg7 37.Bxf5 Bxa4 ∞

35...Bxf5 36.Rxf5 Rb8 37.Kf2

37.Rf7+ Kg6 38.Ra7 b3 39.Rxa6 b2 40.Rb1 Rb3 ∞

37...b3 38.Rb1 b2 39.Ke2 Rb4 40.Rxe5 dxe5 41.d6 Re4+ 42.Kf3 Rxa4 43.Rxb2 Rd4 44.Rb6 a5 45.h4 h5 46.gxh5 1/2-1/2

18. A84

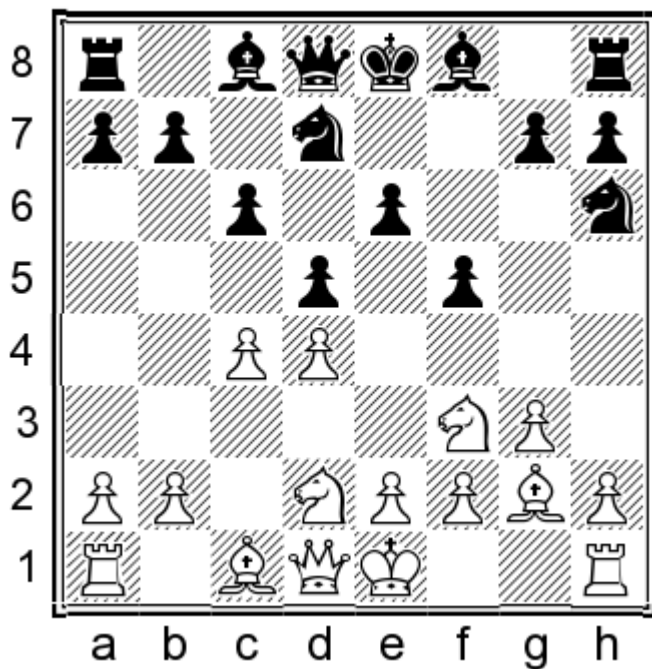
Studer, Noel (2573) - Rapport, Richard (2760)

Deutschland 148/18, 2020

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.Nbd2 f5 5.g3 Nd7!?

5...Nf6 6.Bg2 Bd6

6.Bg2 Nh6!?

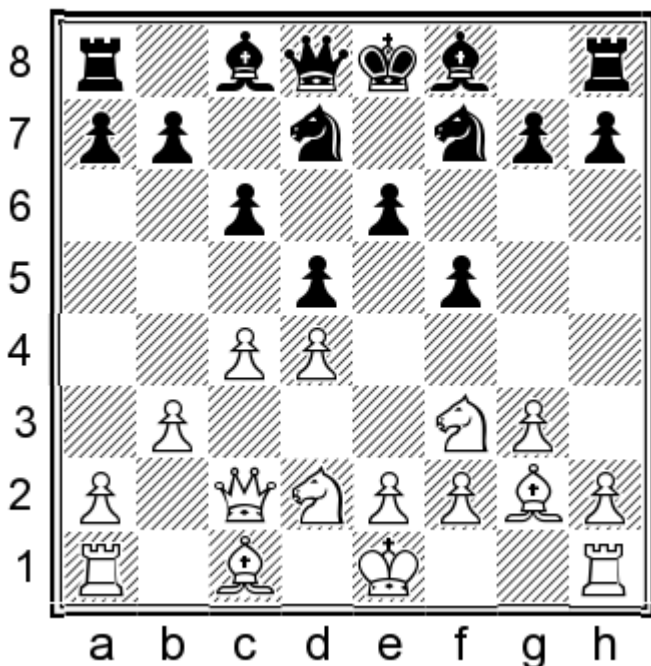


6...Bd6 - 108/(188)

7.Qc2N

7.O-O

7...Nf7 8.b3



8.cxd5 cxd5 9.O-O Bd6 10.Nb3 O-O 11.Bf4 Bxf4 12.gxf4 Nf6 13.Rfc1 b6 =

8...g5!? 9.e3 Bd6 10.Bb2

10.h4 g4 11.Ng1 O-O 12.Ne2 a5 13.a4 Qe7 (13...Nb8 14.Ba3 Bxa3 15.Rxa3 Na6²) 14.Nb1!² ... Ba3

10...a5,, 11.h4 g4 12.Ng1 O-O 13.Ne2 Nf6 14.Nf4 Qe7 15.O-O Nh8!

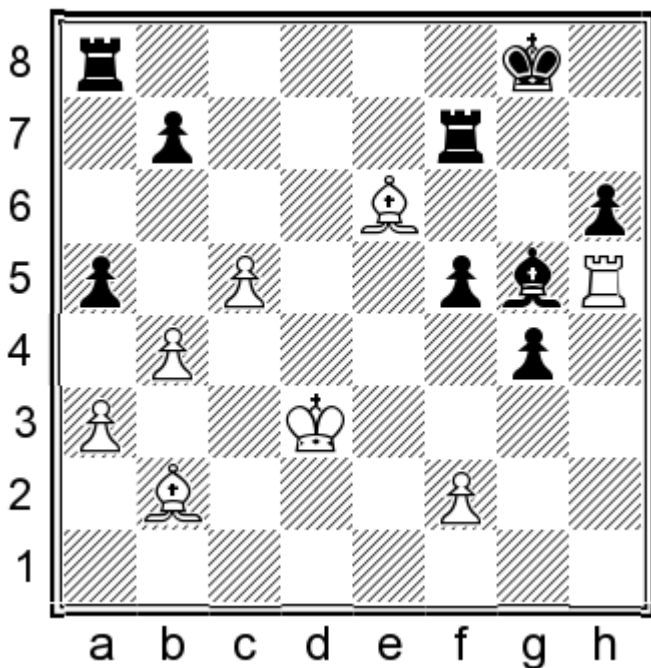
15...b5!?

16.c5?!

16.a4! Ng6 17.Nb1 b6 (17...Nxf4?! 18.exf4 Nh5 19.Ba3 ±) 18.Ba3²

16...Bc7 17.a3 Ng6 18.b4 Nxf4 19.exf4 Nh5! 20.Rfe1 Nxf4! 21.gxf4 Bxf4 22.Nc4!? Qxh4!

22...dxc4 23.d5 cxd5 24.Bxd5 Qxh4 25.Rxe6 Qh2+ 26.Kf1 Qh3+ 27.Ke1 (27.Ke2 Qd3+ 28.Qxd3 cxd3+ 29.Kxd3 Bxe6 30.Bxe6+ Rf7 31.Rh1 h6 32.Rh5 Bg5

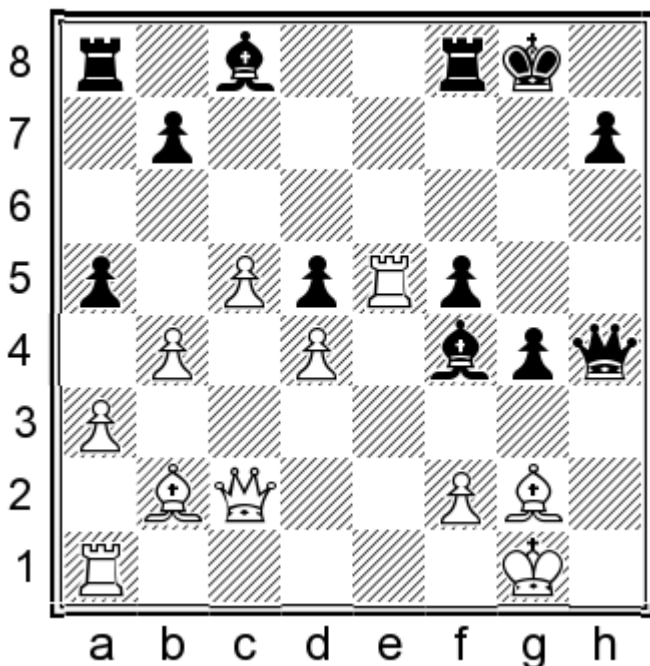


33.Bc1! Bxc1 34.Rxf5 Rf8 35.c6 bxc6 36.bxa5 Kg7 37.Rxf7+ Rxf7 38.Bxf7 Bxa3 39.Kc4 Bd6 40.a6 Bb8 41.Bh5 =) 27...Bxe6 28.Bxe6+ Rf7 29.Bxf7+ Kf8 (29...Kxf7? 30.Qxc4+ +-) 30.Qxf5 Qh1+ 31.Ke2 Qf3+ 32.Kf1 Qh1+ =

23.Nb6 e5 24.Nxd5?

24.dxe5! Bh2+ 25.Kf1 f4 26.f3 Bf5 27.Qc3 axb4 28.axb4 Rxa1 29.Bxa1 Be6 30.Nd7! gxf3 (30...Bxd7 31.e6 +-) 31.Bxf3 Bg3 32.Nf6+ Kf7 33.Re2 Ke7©

24...cxd5 25.Rxe5



25...Bh2+

25...Bd7! 26.Bxd5+ (26.Qd3 axb4 27.axb4 Rxa1+ 28.Bxa1 Kh8 29.Re1 Bh2+ 30.Kf1 f4- +) 26...Kh8 27.Qe2 Bc6 28.Bxc6 bxc6 29.Qd3 g3- +

26.Kf1 Bxe5 27.Bxd5+ Kg7 28.dxe5 axb4 29.Ke2

29.e6+ Kg6 30.Re1 bxa3 31.Ba1 Ra6 32.Qc3 Qe7- +

29...Rxa3

29...bxa3 30.Bc3 Qe7- +

30.Bxa3

30.e6+ Rc3 31.Bxc3+ bxc3 32.Qxc3+ Qf6 33.Qxf6+ Kxf6 34.Ra8 Re8μ

30...bxa3 31.Qc3 f4- + 32.Rxa3 f3+ 33.Ke3 Qg5+ 34.Kd3 Rd8 35.Qd4 Be6 0-1

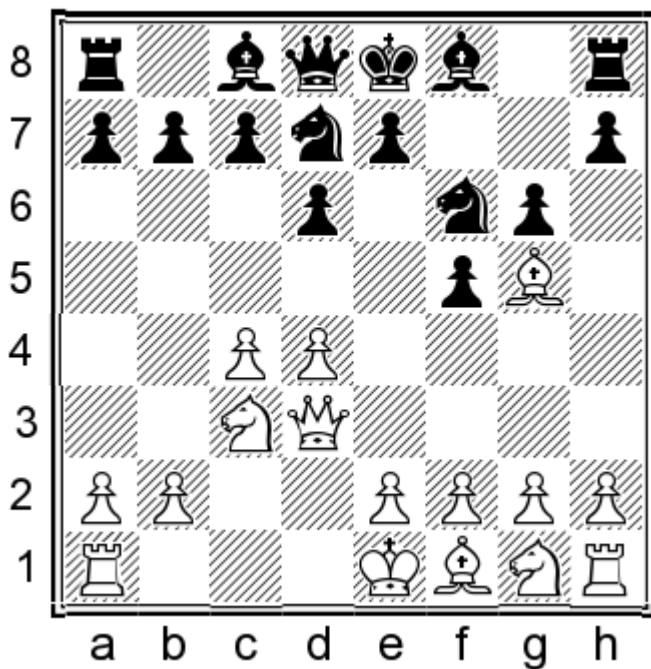
19. A85

Makarian, Rudik (2458) - Suleymenov, Alisher (2440)
Moscow 148/19, 2021

1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 d6 4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.Qd3

5.Qc2 - 143/25

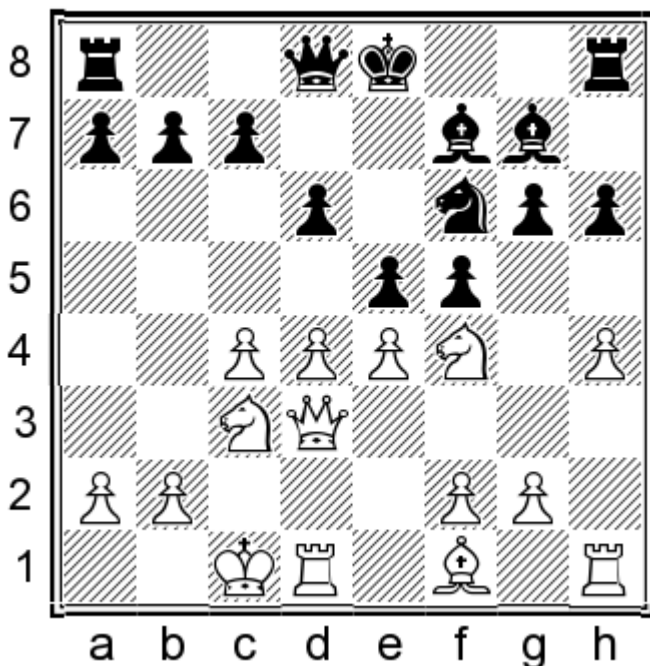
5...g6



6.h4!?N

6.e4

6...h6 7.Bxf6 Nxf6 8.O-O-O Bg7 9.Nh3 Be6 10.Nf4 Bf7 11.e4 e5?



11...Nxe4 12.Nxe4 e5! (12...fxe4? 13.Qxe4 $\pm$) 13.dxe5 (13.Nxg6 Bxg6
14.Qg3 Kf7 15.Nc3 c6 16.dxe5 Bxe5 17.Qe3 Qf6 (17...h5!? 18.Bd3 Qa5
19.Qd2 Kg7 ∞) 18.h5 Bh7 19.f4 Bxc3 20.bxc3 ∞) 13...Bxe5 14.Nxd6+ cxd6
15.Nd5 h5 ∞

12.dxe5

12.exf5! exf4 (12...gxf5 13.dxe5 dxe5 14.Qxf5 + -) 13.Re1+ Kf8 14.fxg6 Be8
15.h5 $\rightarrow$

12...dxe5 13.Qe3?!

13.exf5! Qxd3 (13...exf4 14.fxg6 Bg8 15.Qf3 $\rightarrow$) 14.Nxd3 gxf5 (14...e4
15.fxg6 Bxg6 16.Nf4 Bf7 17.Be2 $\pm$) 15.Nxe5 $\pm$

13...Qc8 14.exf5 Qxf5 15.Nfd5 Nxd5 16.cxd5

16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.cxd5 O-O 18.f3 e4!,, 19.Qxe4 (19.fxe4 Qe5 20.Rd2 h5³)
19...Qxe4 20.fxe4 Rf2 21.Rd2 Raf8 22.Bc4 Kh7 $\odot$

16...O-O 17.Bd3 e4?!

17...Qf4 18.Be4 Qxe3+ 19.fxe3 Rad8 (19...h5 20.Rhg1 Bf6 (20...Bh6 21.Kd2
Rad8 22.Ke2²) 21.g4 Bxh4 22.gxh5 g5 23.d6 cxd6 24.Rxd6 ∞) 20.g4 Bf6 ∞

18.Bxe4 Qf6 19.g4 Qa6 20.Qd3

20.h5 g5 21.Rhe1 Rad8 (21...Bxc3? 22.Qxc3 Qxa2 23.Bb1 + -) 22.Qc5 $\pm$

20...Qb6

20...Qxd3 21.Rxd3 Rfe8 22.f3 Rad8²

21.f3 Rad8 22.Rd2 Rd6 23.Rhd1 Qa5

23...c6 24.Kb1 Rc8©

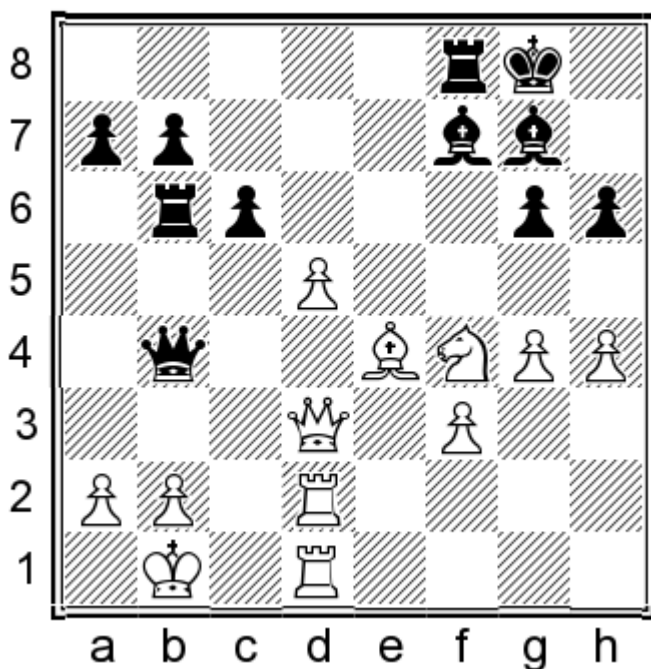
24.Kb1

24.h5 g5 25.Qc2²

24...Rb6 25.Ne2

25.Rc2 Kh8 26.Rdd2²

25...c6 26.Nf4 Qb4



27.Qc2?

27.Qe2 Re8©

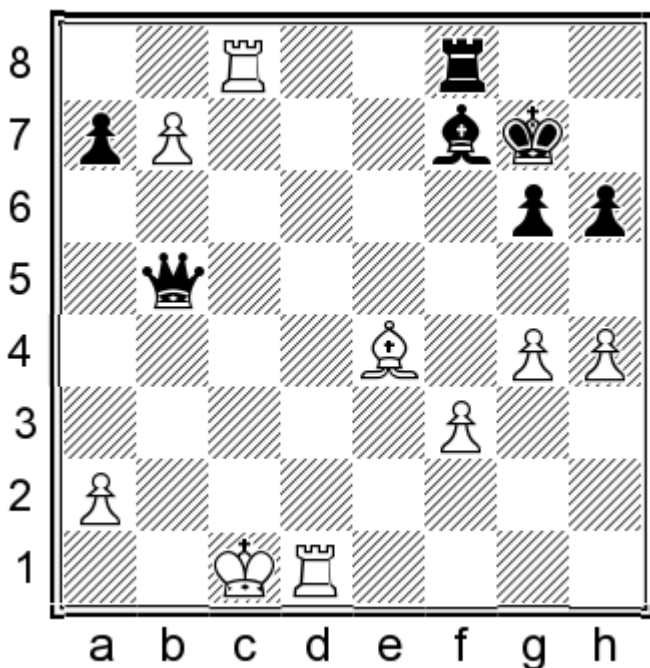
27...Qd6! 28.dxc6

28.Nd3 cxd5- + ; 28.Ne2 Rxb2+ 29.Qxb2 Bxb2 30.dxc6 Qe5 31.Rxb2 bxc6- +

28...Qxf4 29.cxb7 Rxb2+ 30.Qxb2 Bxb2 31.Rxb2 Be6 32.Rbd2 Qc7 33.Rc1 Qe5 34.Rc6 Kg7?

34...Kh8! 35.Rdd6 Bxg4!- +

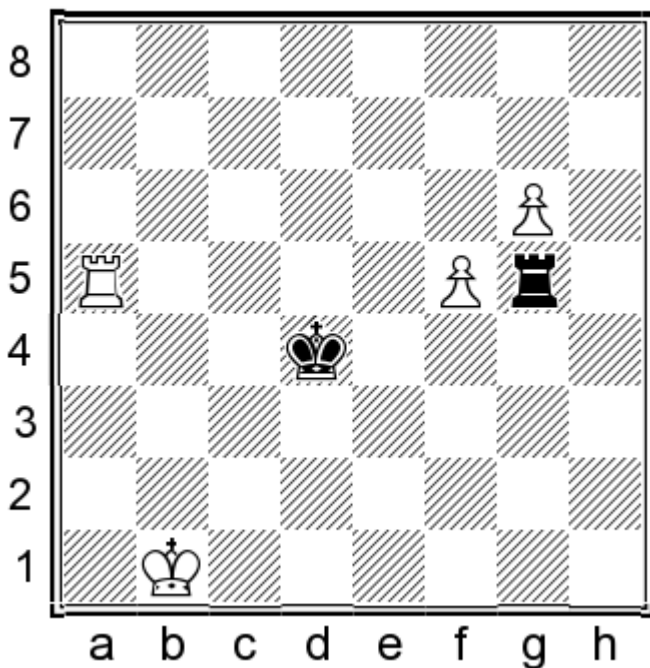
35.Rdd6 Bf7 36.Rd7© Qb5+ 37.Kc1 Qf1+ 38.Rd1 Qb5 39.Rc8



39...Re8?

39...Be6 40.Rdd8 Rxd8 41.Rxd8 Qf1+ 42.Kd2 Qf2+ 43.Kd1 Qf1+=

40.b8=Q Qxb8 41.Rxb8 Rxb8 42.Rd7 +- Kf6 43.Rxa7 Rb4 44.g5+ hxg5
45.hxg5+ Ke6 46.Bd5+ Kxd5 47.Rxf7 Rh4 48.Rf6 Rh3 49.a4 Rg3 50.f4
Ra3 51.Rxg6 Rxa4 52.Rf6 Ra2 53.g6 Rg2 54.f5 Kc4 55.Re6 Rg5 56.Re5
Kc3 57.Kb1 Kd4 58.Ra5?



58.Re8 + -

58...Kc4?

58...Ke4! 59.Kc2 Rg3! (59...Kf4? 60.Kd3 Rg1 61.Rd5 Kg5 62.Kd4 Kf6 63.Kc5 Ke7 64.Kc6 Rc1+ 65.Rc5 Rf1 66.Rb5 Rf2 (66...Rc1+ 67.Kd5 Kf6 68.Rb8! Rd1+ 69.Kc6 Rc1+ 70.Kd7 Rd1+ 71.Ke8 + -) 67.Rb7+ Kf8 68.Rf7+ Kg8 69.Kd6 + -) 60.Kd2 Kf4 61.Ke2 Re3+ 62.Kf2 Rf3+ 63.Kg2 Rg3+ 64.Kh2 Rg5 65.Kh3 Rg3+ 66.Kh4 Rg1 =

59.Ra8 Rg1+ 60.Kc2 Rg2+ 61.Kc1 Kd5 62.f6 1-0

B00-B24

20. B00

Lupulescu, Constantin (2656) - Bauer, Christian (2639)

tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/20, 2021

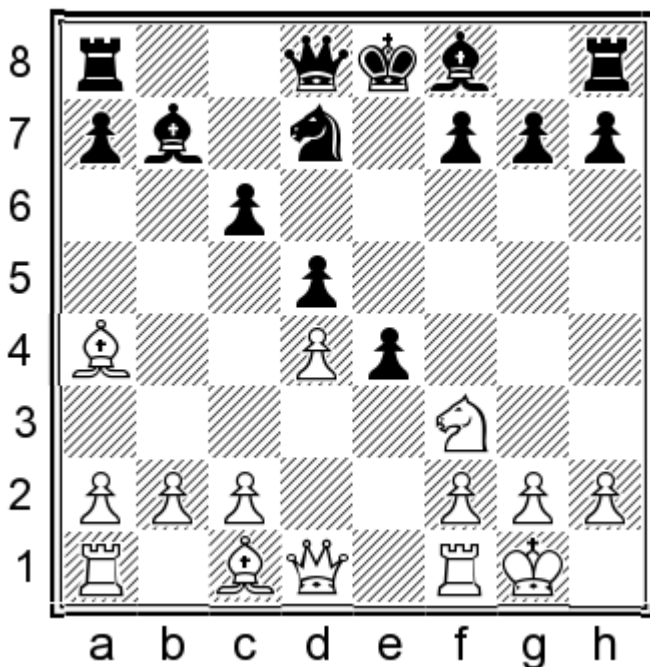
1.Nf3 b6 2.e4 Bb7 3.Nc3 Nf6

3...e6 - 85/52

3...g6 - 69/84, A 04

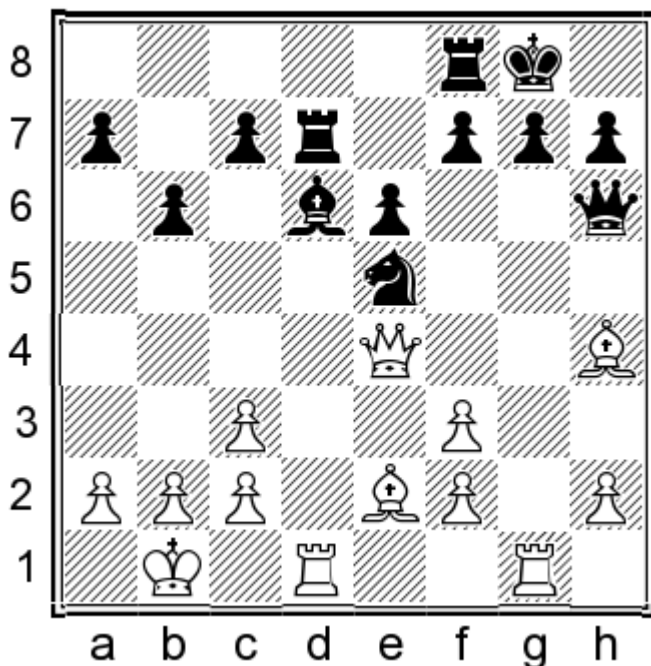
4.e5 Nd5 5.Nxd5

5.Bc4 Nxc3 (5...e6 6.Nxd5 (6.Bxd5 exd5 (6...Bxd5 7.Nxd5 exd5 8.O-O Be7 9.Nd4 Nc6 10.Nf5 g6 11.Nh6 d6 12.Qf3²) 7.d4 d6 8.exd6 Bxd6 9.Bg5 Be7 10.Qe2 f6 11.Bf4 Qd7 12.Nb5 Na6 13.O-O Kf7 ∞) 6...exd5 7.Bb3 d6 (7...c5 8.c3 Be7 9.d4 c4 10.Bc2 b5 11.O-O O-O 12.Bf4 ±) 8.d4 Nd7 9.O-O dxe5 10.Ba4!? f b5!? 11.Bxb5 c6 12.Ba4 e4



13.c4! exf3 14.Re1+ Be7 15.cxd5 cxd5 16.Qb3 O-O 17.Qxb7 Qa5 18.Rxe7 Qxa4 19.Be3²) 6.dxc3 e6 7.Bf4 (7.Qe2 d6 8.Bf4 Nd7 9.exd6 Bxd6 10.Bg3 Qf6!? (10...a6 11.O-O-O Nc5 12.Qe3 O-O 13.h4 b5 14.Be2 Qe7 15.h5 Bxg3

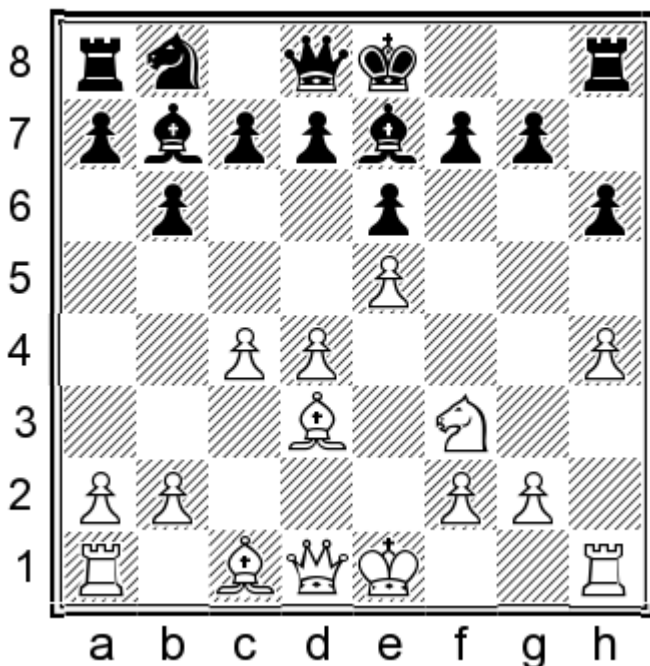
16.fxg3 h6∞) 11.O-O-O Bxf3 12.gxf3 O-O 13.Qe4 Ne5 14.Be2 Rad8 15.Bh4 Qh6+ 16.Kb1 Rd7 17.Rhg1



17...f5! 18.Qa4 Rdf7 19.Bg5 Qh3∞) 7...d6 (7...Be7 8.Qe2 d5 9.exd6 cxd6 10.O-O-O O-O 11.h4 d5 12.Bd3 Nd7 13.Ng5→; 7...d5 8.exd6 Bxd6 9.Bg5 Be7 10.Qxd8+ Bxd8 11.Bxd8 Kxd8 12.O-O-O+ Ke7 13.Ne5 a6 14.f4f (14.Rhe1 Bxg2 15.Rg1 Be4!) Δ14...b5 15.Bb3 c5 16.c4 f6 17.Nd3 Nd7 18.a4! Bc6 19.a5 ... Rhe1²) 8.Qe2 Nd7 9.exd6 Bxd6 10.Bxd6 (10.Bg3 a6 11.O-O-O Nc5 12.Qe3 O-O 13.h4 b5 14.Be2 Qe7 15.h5 Bxg3 16.fxg3 h6∞) 10...cxd6 11.O-O-O Bxf3 12.Qxf3 O-O 13.Rxd6 Qg5+ 14.Qe3 (14.Kb1 Ne5 15.Qe4 Nxc4 16.Qxc4 Qxg2) 14...Qxg2 15.Rhd1 Nf6 16.Qg3 Qxg3 17.fxg3 Rac8 18.Bb5 Rc5 19.a4 g6 20.c4 Rh5 21.h4 Kg7 22.a5 Ne4 23.Rd7 bxa5 24.Rg1 Rc5 25.Rxa7 Nd6=

5...Bxd5 6.d4 e6 7.Bd3 c5

7...Be7 8.h4!? (8.O-O d6 9.c4!? Bb7 10.d5!? exd5 11.e6f) 8...h6 (8...c5 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bf4 Qc7 11.Qe2 Nc6 12.c3 d6 (12...O-O-O?! 13.b4 Be7 14.O-O d6 15.a4±) 13.exd6 (13.Rd1 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 dxe5 15.Bg3 O-O 16.h5©) 13...Bxd6 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Rd1 Qf4 16.Qe3 Qc7 (16...Qxe3+ 17.fxe3 O-O-O 18.Ke2 Bxf3+ 19.gxf3²) 17.O-O O-O 18.Ng5f h6 19.c4 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 hxg5 21.hxg5 Ne5 22.Be4 Rac8 23.f4²) 9.c4 Bb7



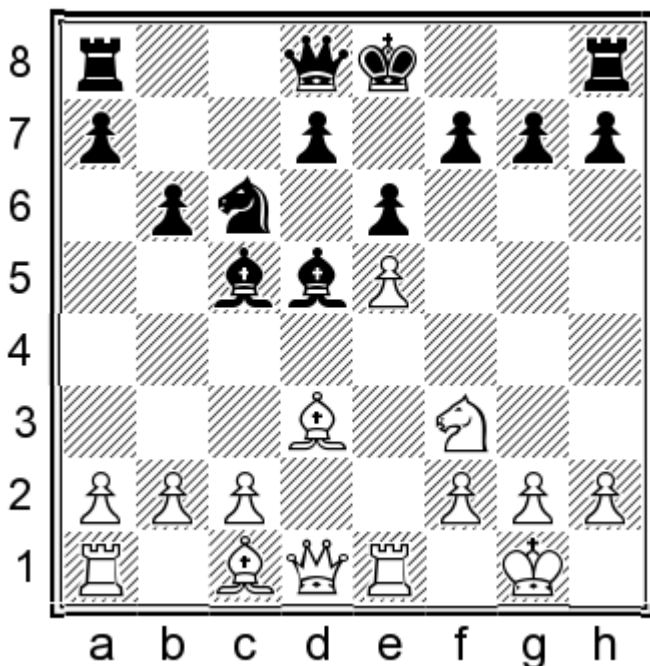
10.Rh3!? c5 11.Rg3 cxd4 (11...g5? 12.hxg5 hxg5 13.Nxg5 Rh1+ 14.Bf1 f5 15.Nh3 +-) 12.Rxg7 Qc7 13.Bf4 Bf8 14.Rg3 Nc6 15.Be4²

8.dxc5

8.c4 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nc6 10.Be4 Nxd4 11.Qg3 (11.Qd3 Rc8 12.Be3 d6 13.Bxd4 cxd4 14.Qxd4 dxe5 15.Qxe5 Bb4+ 16.Kf1 O-O) 11...b5! 12.cxb5 Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Qxb5 14.Qe3 d5³

8...Nc6!?

8...bxc5 9.c4 Bb7 10.O-O d5 11.cxd5 Bxd5 12.Be3 Nd7 13.Qa4 Be7 14.Bb5 a6 15.Bc6 Bxc6 16.Qxc6 Qc8 17.Qe4 O-O 18.Rac1²; 8...Bxc5 9.O-O Nc6 10.Re1

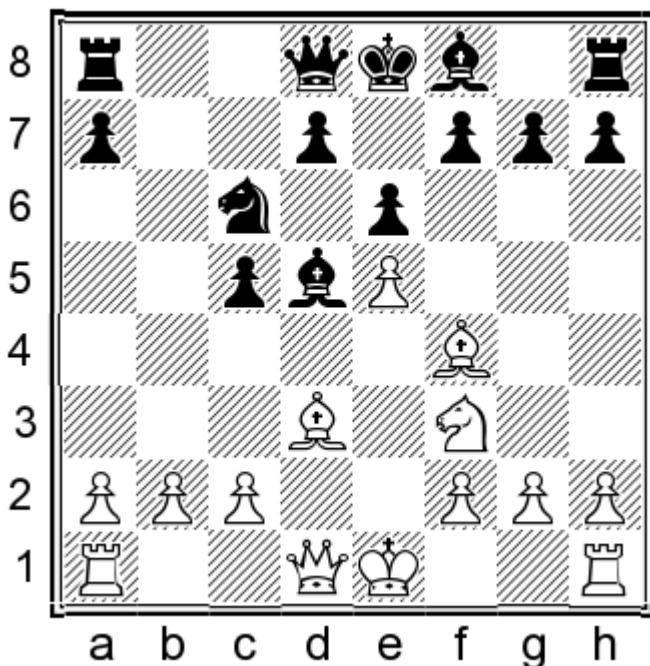


10...f6!? (10...Nd4? 11.Nxd4 Bxd4 12.Qg4 +-) 11.exf6 (11.Nh4 O-O 12.Qh5 f5 13.Bg5 Qe8 ∞) 11...Qxf6 12.Be4 Bxe4 13.Rxe4 O-O 14.Rf4 Qg6 15.Nh4 Qe8 16.c3 d5 17.Nf3 Qh5 18.Be3 Bd6 19.Rh4 Qg6,,

9.Bf4

9.cxb6 Bxf3 10.Qxf3 Nxe5 = ; 9.Qe2 Bxf3 10.gxf3 bxc5 11.Be4 (11.Bf4 g6 12.c3 Rb8 13.O-O Bg7 ∞) 11...Qc7 12.Bxc6 Qxc6 13.Rg1 g6 14.Bg5 Bg7 15.O-O-O c4,,

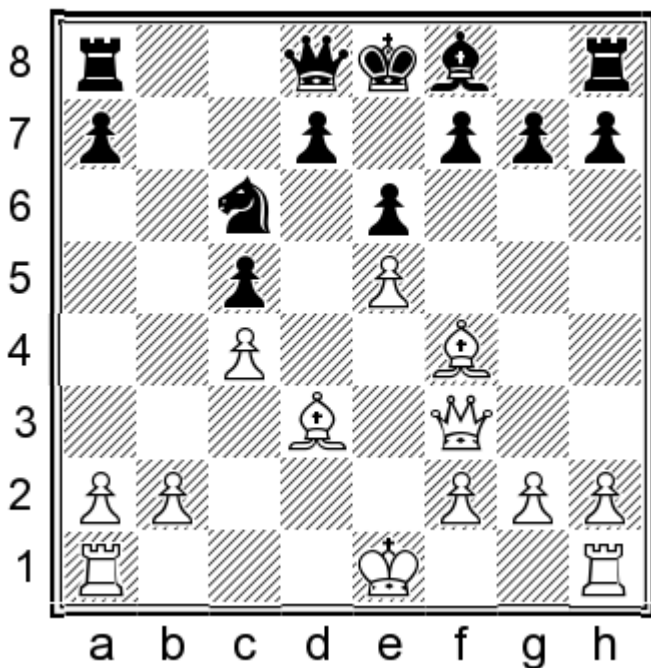
9...bxc5



10.c4N

10.b3 c4! 11.bxc4 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Bb4+ 13.Kf1 Bc3,,; 10.O-O c4 11.Be2 Qc7 12.Re1 Rb8 13.Nd2 g5! 14.Be3 (14.Bg3 Nd4 15.Ne4 (15.Bh5 c3 16.bxc3 Qxc3 17.Ne4 Bxe4 18.Rxe4 Nf5,,) 15...Bxe4 16.Qxd4 Qc6 17.Bf1 Bf5,,) 14...Nxe5 15.Bd4 Bg7 16.Bxc4 Bxc4 17.Nxc4 Qxc4 18.Rxe5 Rc8 19.Rxe6+ (19.Re4 Bxd4 20.Rxd4 Qxc2 21.Rxd7 Qxb2 22.h4 O-O 23.hxg5 Rc5 =) 19...dxe6 20.Bxg7 Rg8 21.Bc3 Rd8 22.Qh5 h6 23.Qxh6 Qe2,,; 10.Qe2

10...Bxf3 11.Qxf3



11...g5!?

11...Rb8 12.b3 g5!? 13.Bd2 Nxe5 14.Qg3 Bg7 15.Rd1 Nxd3+ 16.Qxd3 f5
17.Qd6 Qb6 18.Bxg5 Qxd6 19.Rxd6 Rb6 =

12.Bg3

12.Bd2 Nxe5 13.Qg3 Bg7 14.Be4 Nxc4 15.Bc3 d5 16.Bxg7 Rg8 17.Bc3 dxe4
18.Qg4 Qd5 19.Rd1 Ne5 20.Rxd5 Nxg4 21.Rxc5 e3! =

12...Qa5+ 13.Kf1 Rb8,, 14.Be4 Nd4 15.Qc3 Qb4

15...Qb6 16.h4 g4 17.b3 h5 ∞

16.h4 g4 17.h5

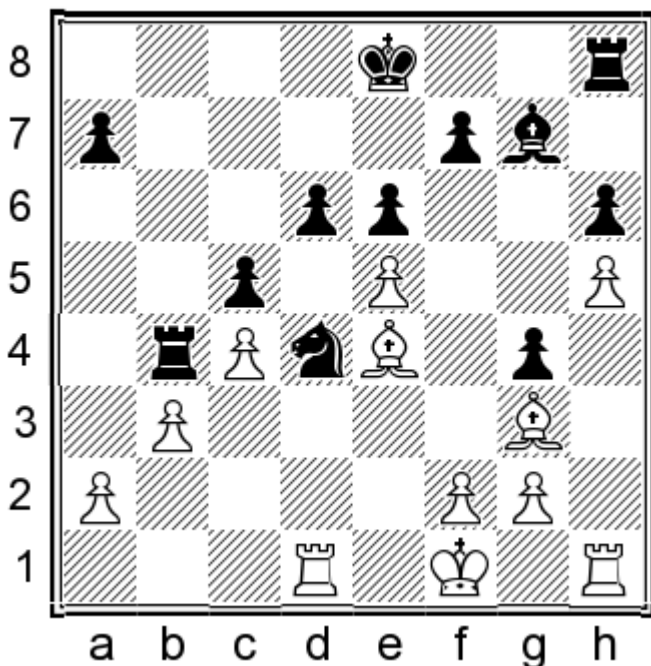
17.Qxb4 Rxb4 18.b3 h5 19.f3 gxf3 20.gxf3 Bh6 (20...Rg8 21.Bf4) 21.Be1
Rb8 22.Ba5! Bg7 23.Bc7 Rc8 24.Bd6 =

17...h6

¹17...Qxb2 18.Qxb2 Rxb2 19.Rb1 Rxb1+ 20.Bxb1 h6 21.Be4 Bg7 22.f4 f5!³

18.Qxb4 Rxb4 19.b3 Bg7 20.Rb1

20.Rd1 d6



21.Rxd4!? cxd4 22.Bc6+ Kd8 23.exd6 Rb6 24.Ba4 (24.Be4 Ra6 25.Ke2 f5!
26.Bb1 Kd7 27.c5 Bf6 28.Rc1 Kc6 29.Bf4 e5! 30.Bxf5 Rxa2+ 31.Kd3 exf4
32.Be4+ Kb5 33.c6 Be5³) 24...d3 25.c5 Rb4 26.c6 e5 ∞

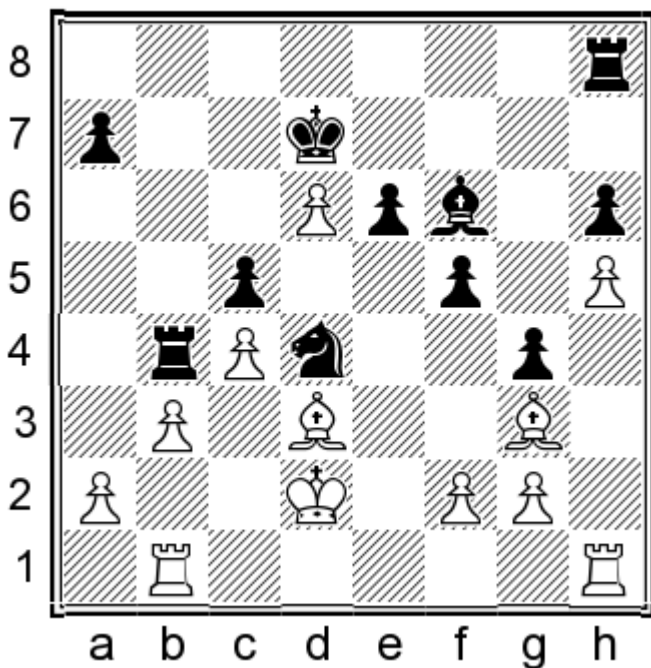
20...d6 21.exd6 f5 22.Bd3 Kd7,, 23.Ke1?!

23.a3 Rxb3 24.Rxb3 Nxb3 25.Bc2 Rb8 26.Kg1 Bf6 27.Kh2 Nd4 28.Ba4+ Kd8
29.Bf4 Rb6 30.Bxh6 Ra6 31.Bd1 Rxa3 32.Re1 e5 33.f3 gxf3 34.gxf3 Ra1
35.Rg1 Kd7 ∞

23...Bf6

23...Rb6! 24.Kf1 (24.Kd2 Ra6 25.a4 Rb8μ) 24...e5f 25.f3 Rf8! 26.fxg4 e4
27.Be2 f4 28.Be1 Rxd6 29.Bd1 Ra6 30.Rb2 e3μ

24.Kd2



24.a3 Rxb3 25.Rxb3 Nxb3 26.Bc2 Rb8 27.Bf4 Nd4 28.Ba4+ Nc6 29.Bxh6
Rb1+ 30.Bd1 Ne5 31.Be3 Ra1 32.g3 Kxd6³

24...a5

24...Rb6! 25.Rhe1 Ra6 26.a4 Rb8 27.Bf4 (27.Bc2 Bg5+ 28.Kc3 f4μ)
27...Nxb3+ 28.Kd1 Rbb6 29.Bxh6 Rxa4 30.Be3 Ra3! 31.Ke2 Nd4+ 32.Bxd4
Ra2+ 33.Rb2 Rxb2+ 34.Bxb2 Rxb2+ 35.Kf1 a5μ

25.Rhf1

25.Rhe1 Bg5+ 26.Kd1 f4 27.Bh2 a4 28.Re4 Rf8 29.Bg1 axb3 30.a3 Rbb8
31.f3³

25...Bg5+ 26.Kc3

26.Kd1 f4 27.Bh2 a4μ

26...Bf6

26...f4 27.Bh2 a4 28.Bc2 Ra8!μ

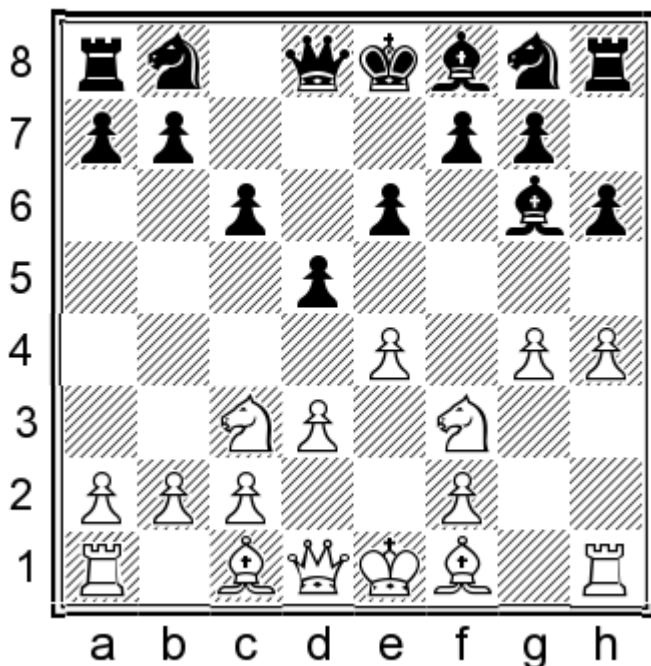
27.Kd2 Bg5+ 28.Kc3 Bf6†

28...f4 29.Bh2 a4 30.bxa4 Rxa4 31.Rb7+ Kc6 32.Be4+ Kxd6 33.Ra1 Ke5
34.f3 Rha8- +

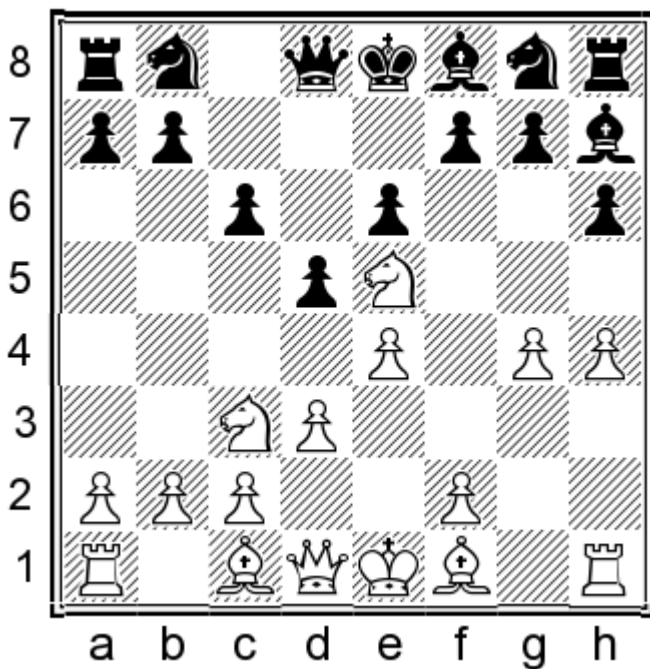
29.Kd2 1/2-1/2

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3

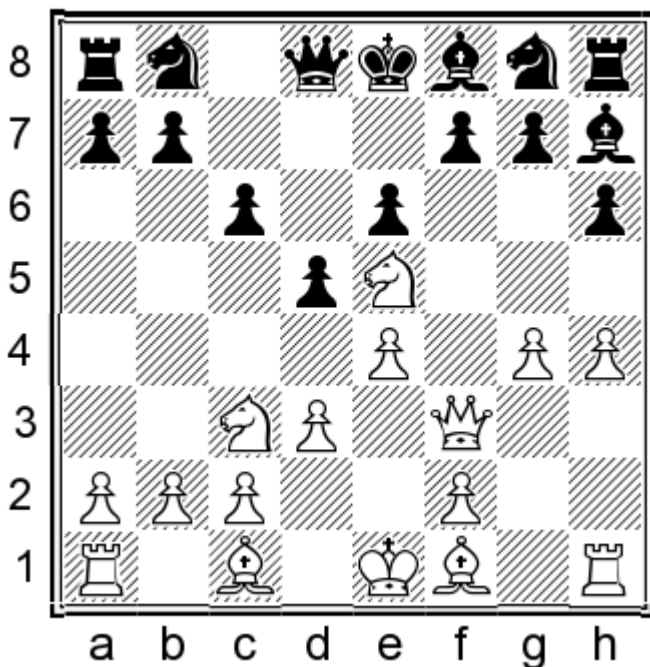
2.Nf3 d5 3.d3!? Bg4 4.h3 Bh5 (4...Bxf3 5.Qxf3 e6 6.Nd2 Nf6 7.g3 Nbd7 8.Bg2 Bc5 9.O-O O-O 10.Qe2 Qc7 11.Kh2²) 5.Nc3 e6 6.g4 Bg6 7.h4 (7.Qe2!? d4 8.Nb1 h5 (8...c5 9.h4 h5 10.Ne5 Bh7 11.g5²) 9.Rg1 hxc4 10.hxc4 c5 11.Bf4 ΔQb6 12.Nbd2 Qxb2 13.Rb1 Qxa2 14.Ne5 Ne7 15.Qd1©) 7...h6



(7...h5 8.Ne5! Ne7 (8...Bh7 9.g5 Bd6 10.Nxf7! Kxf7 11.Qxh5+ Kf8 12.Rh3! ±) 9.Nxg6 Nxg6 10.gxh5 Ne7 11.Bg5²; 7...dxe4 8.h5 exf3 (8...Bxh5 9.Ne5f) 9.hxc6 fxc6 10.Qxf3 Nd7 (10...Na6 11.Bd2 Qf6 12.Qe2 O-O-O 13.O-O-O Qf7 14.Ne4²) 11.Bd2 (11.d4 Bb4 12.Bd2 Qf6 13.Qe3 O-O-O 14.g5 Qf8 15.O-O-O Ne7 16.Qxe6 Qxf2 17.Nb5!?²) 11...Qf6 12.Qe4 Qe5 13.O-O-O Qxe4 14.Nxe4 Ngf6 15.Ng5²) 8.Ne5N (8.Qe2) 8...Bh7

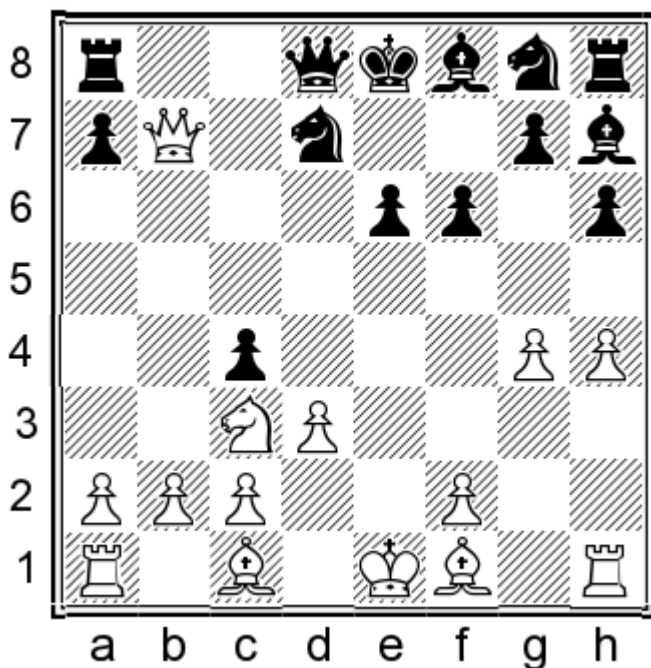


9.Qf3? Ronka,E (2382)-Janik,I (2467) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(21) 2020
(9.Qf3

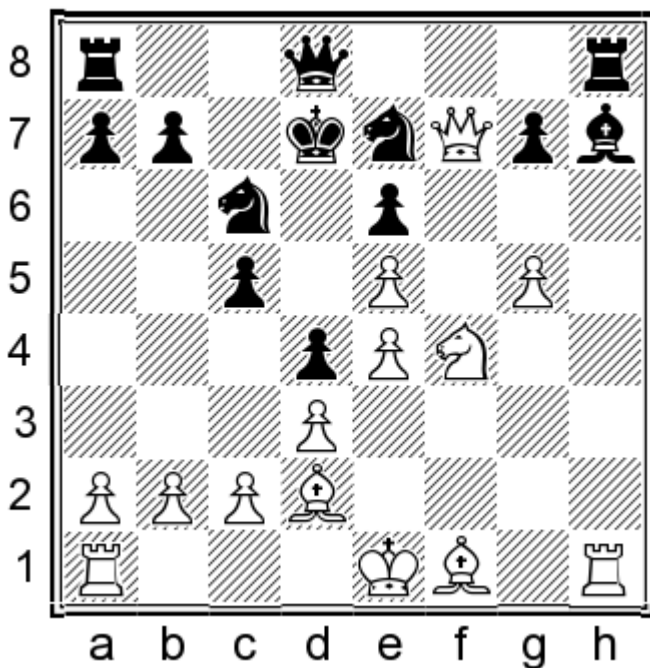


9...f6!N 10.g5 (10.exd5 cxd5 (10...fxe5 11.dxe6 Qf6 12.Qg3 Qxe6 13.Bh3

Nd7 14.g5 Bf5- +) 11.Nc4 dxc4 12.Qxb7 Nd7



13.Nb5 (13.Be3 cxd3 14.O-O-O Qc8- +) 13...Rb8 14.Nc7+ (14.Qc6 Qa5+ 15.Nc3 Bb4 16.Qxc4 Ne7- +) 14...Kf7- + Gavrilescu,D (2476)-Nakamura,H (2735) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(21) 2021) 10...fxe5 11.Qg3 (11.Bh3 Qd6 12.Qh5+ g6 13.Qg4 Ne7 14.Qxe6 Qxe6 15.Bxe6 Na6 16.f4 Nc7 17.Bh3 hgx5 18.hxg5 Bg7- +) 11...Ne7 12.gxh6 gxh6 13.Qxe5 Rg8 14.Qxe6 Bg6 15.Bf4 Bf7μ; 9.f4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 Nd7 11.Nxd7 Qxd7 12.Qe2 O-O-O∞; 9.Bd2 Bd6 10.f4 Bxe5 11.fxe5 d4 12.Ne2 Ne7 (12...c5 13.Nf4 Qc7 14.g5 Nc6 15.Rg1 Nxe5 16.Qe2f) 13.g5 hxg5 14.hxg5 c5 15.Nf4 Kd7! 16.Qh5 Nbc6 17.Qxf7

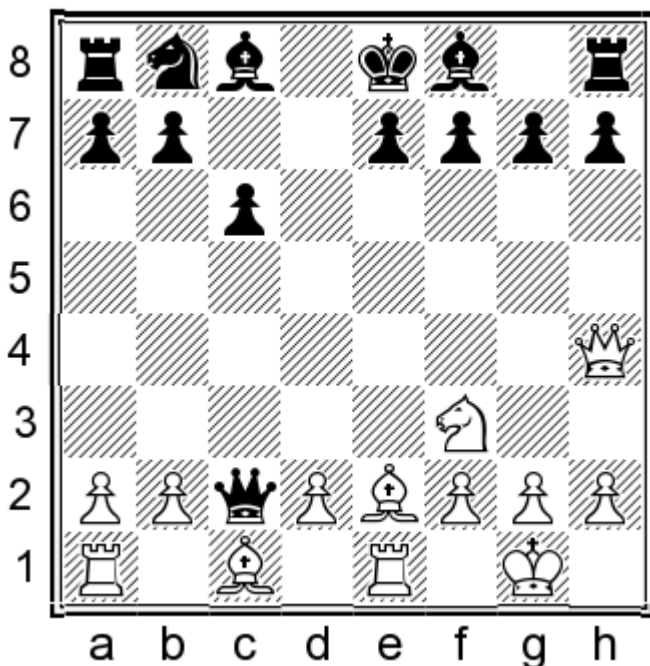


17...Bg8! 18.Rxh8 Bxf7 19.Rxd8+ Rxd8 20.Be2 Nxe5 21.Kf2 Rh8 22.Kg3 N7c6= Stoica,Valentin) 9...Qc7

2...d5 3.Nf3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Qe2 Nxe4 6.Qxe4 Qd5 7.Qh4

7.Qxd5 cxd5 - 45/(144)

7...Qe6+ 8.Be2 Qg6 9.O-O Qxc2 10.Re1!?



10.Bc4 Qf5 11.Re1 e6 12.d4f

10...e6?!N

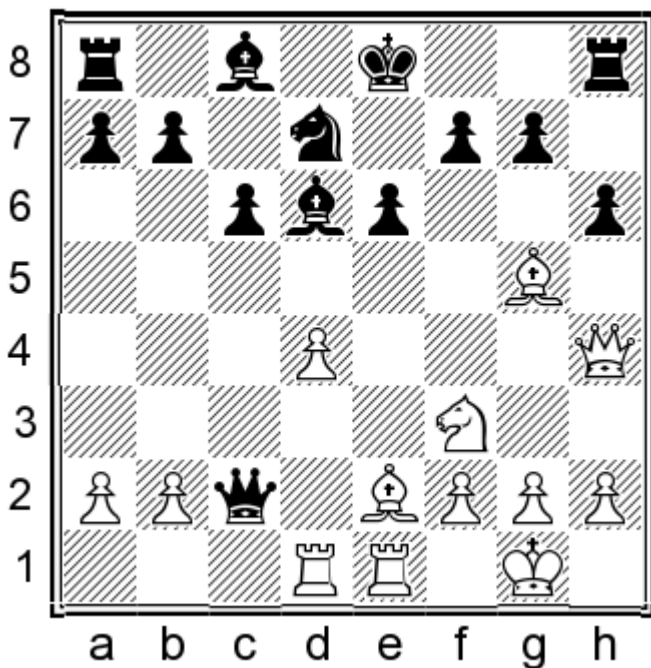
10...Qf5! 11.Bc4 - 10.Bc4 (11.d4? Qg4)

11.d4 Nd7 12.Bg5! h6

12...Bb4 13.Rac1 Qxb2 14.Rb1 Qa3 15.Rb3 Qa5 16.Rd1 Qxa2 (16...O-O?
17.d5 +-; 16...Bd6 17.Ne5→) 17.Re3 ... d5±

12...Qf5 13.d5! Qxd5 (13...cxd5 14.Nd4 Qe4 15.Bh5! Qxh4 16.Rxe6+ Be7
17.Rxe7+ Kd8 (17...Kf8 18.Ne6+ fxe6 19.Re8#) 18.Bxh4 +-) 14.Bc4 Qa5
15.Bxe6! fxe6 16.Qf4! +-

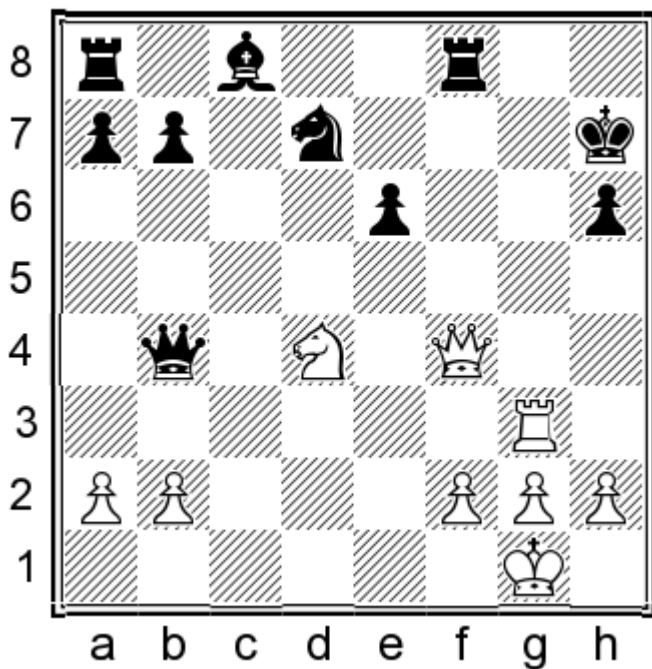
13.Rad1f Bd6?



13...Qh7! 14.Bd3 hxc5 15.Qxh7 Rxc7 16.Bxc7 g6 17.Bxc6 fxc6 18.Rxe6+ Kf7 19.Nxc5+ Kg7 20.Re8 Nb6 21.Rde1 Bd7 22.Rxa8 Nxa8 23.Ne6+ Bxe6 24.Rxe6 ±

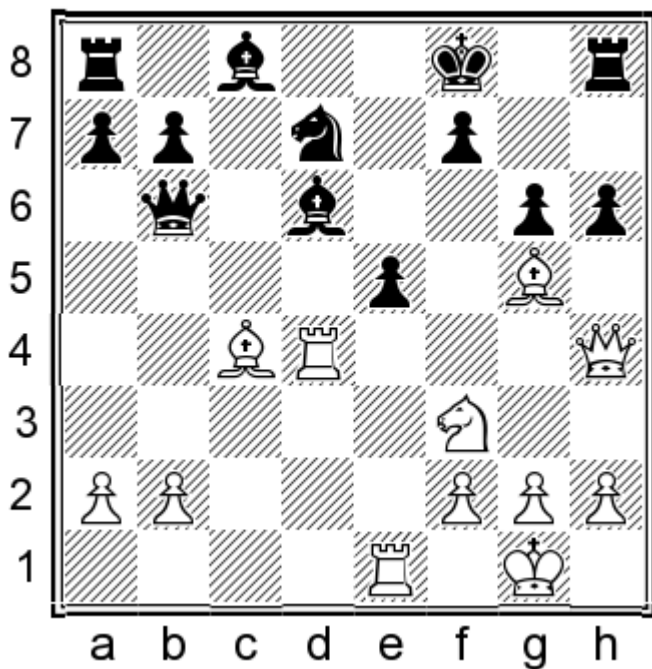
14.d5! cxd5 15.Rxd5 Qc6 16.Rd4 Qb6 17.Bc4 e5

17...Bc5 18.Bxe6 O-O 19.Bxh6 Bxd4 20.Nxd4 Qb4 21.Re2 gxh6 (21...fxe6 22.Bxg7! Qc5 (22...Kxg7 23.Nxe6++ -) 23.Qh8+ Kf7 24.Qh6+-) 22.Qg4+ Kh8 23.Qf4 Kg8 24.Re3 fxe6 25.Rg3+ Kh7



26.Rg7+! Kxg7 27.Nxe6+ Kh7 28.Qxb4 +- -

18.Qh5 g6 19.Qh4 Kf8



20.Bxh6+

20.Rf4! exf4 21.Bxh6+ Kg8 22.Ng5 +-

20...Ke8

20...Rxb6 21.Qxb6+ Ke7 22.Rf4 +-

21.Qf4 f6 22.Bg7 Rh5

22...Kd8 23.Nxe5 (23.Bxf6+ Kc7 24.Nxe5 Nxf6 25.Rc1 +-) 23...Bxe5

24.Rxe5 fxe5 25.Bxe5 Re8 26.Qg5+ Re7 27.Bd6 +- -

**23.Qe4 Rf5 24.Qd5 Kd8 25.Rd3 Bc5 26.Red1 Kc7 27.Qf7 Bxf2+ 28.Kh1
Qc6 29.Be6 Rxf3 30.gxf3**

30.Bxd7 Bxd7 31.Rxd7+ Kb6 32.R1d6 +- -

30...Bd4 31.Bxf6 Kb6 32.Bd8+ Kb5 33.a4+ 1-0

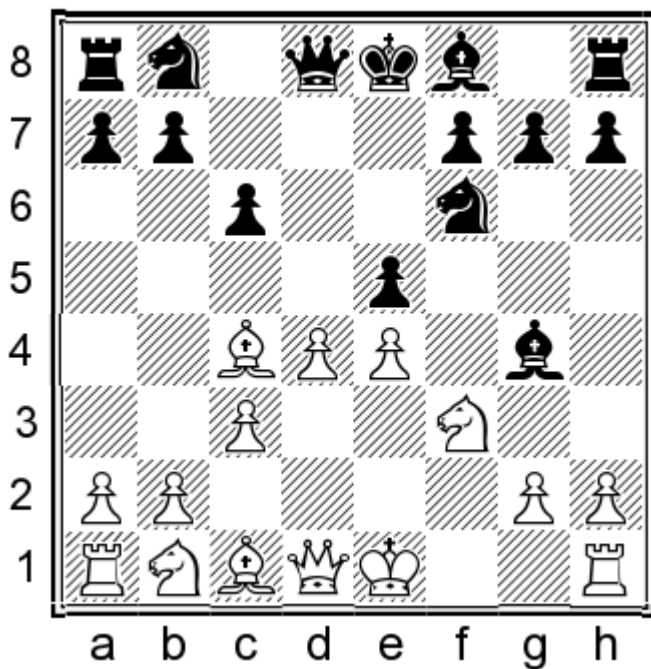
22. * B12

Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2767) - Alekseenko, Kirill (2698)
Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/22, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.c3 Nf6

6...Nd7 7.Bd3 - 146/30

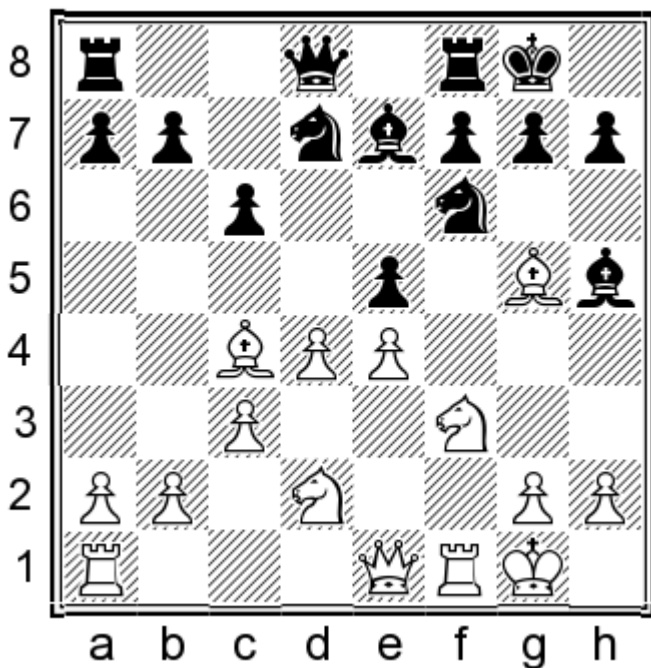
7.Bc4



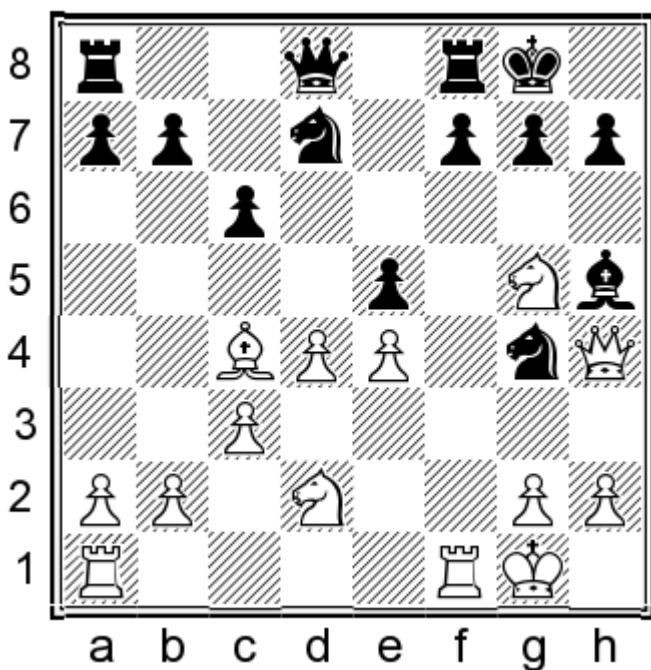
7.Be2

7...Qc7?N

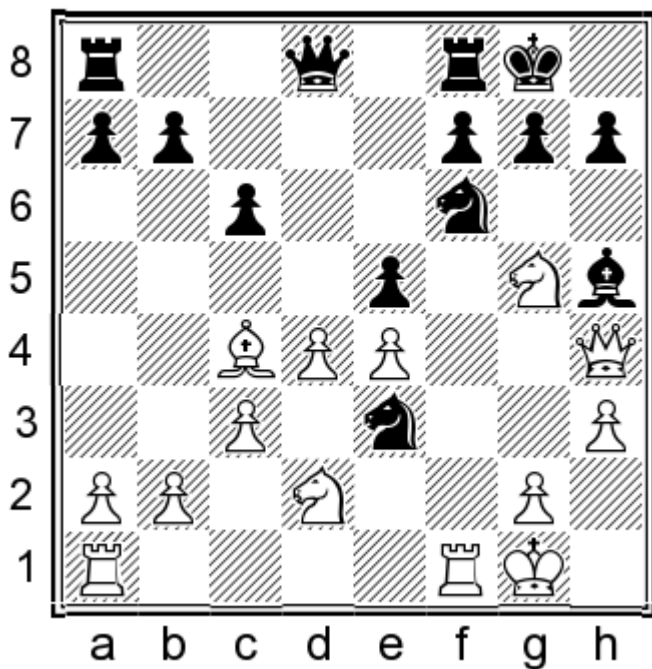
7...Nbd7? 8.Qb3 Bh5 9.Ng5 Qe7 10.Qxb7; 7...Bh5 8.O-O Nbd7 ∞ 9.Bg5 Be7
10.Nbd2 O-O 11.Qe1



11...Ng4?!N (11...exd4 12.cxd4 Bxf3 13.Nxf3 Nxe4 14.Qxe4 Bxg5 15.Nxg5 Qxg5 16.Rxf7 Rxf7 17.Qe6 Rf8 18.Qxd7 Qf4 19.h3 =) 12.Qh4 Bxg5 13.Nxg5



13...Ndf6? (13...Ngf6 14.Ndf3 h6 15.Nxe5 hxg5 16.Qxg5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qb6+ 18.Kh1 Qc5 (18...Nxe4 19.Qxh5 Nf2+ 20.Rxf2 Qxf2 21.Rf1 +-) 19.Bb3 Nxe4 20.Qxh5 Nf2+ 21.Rxf2 Qxf2 22.e6 Rae8 23.exf7+ Rxf7 24.h3 ±) 14.h3 Ne3



15.Rxf6! gxf6 (15...Qxf6 16.Qxh5 +-) 16.Nxh7 Kg7 (16...Kxh7 17.Qxh5+ Kg7 18.Rf1! Nxf1 19.Nxf1 +- ... Ne3-f5) 17.Nxf8 exd4 18.Qxh5 +- Xiong,J (2709)-Leiva,G (2391) chess.com (Int. -blitz) 148/(22) 2021

7...Bxf3 8.Qxf3 Nbd7 9.O-O Bd6 10.Nd2 O-O 11.Kh1 b5 12.Be2 Qe7 ∞

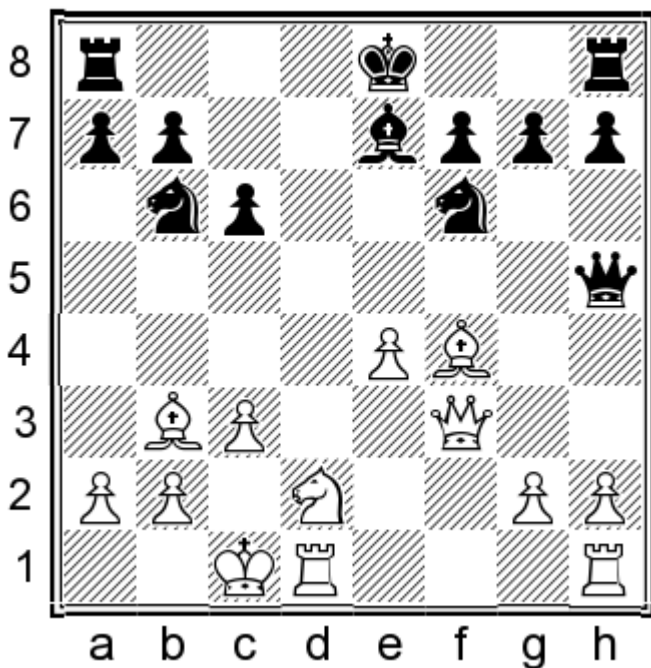
8.dxe5 Bxf3

8...Nxe4 9.Bf4 ±

9.Qxf3 Qxe5 10.Bf4 Qh5

10...Qxe4+ 11.Qxe4+ Nxe4 12.Nd2! Nxd2 13.Kxd2 ±

11.Nd2 Nbd7 12.O-O-O Nb6 13.Bb3 Be7



14.Rhg1! [... g4f]

14.e5!? Qxf3 15.Nxf3 Nfd5 16.Bg3 a5 17.a4 O-O-O 18.Rhe1 ±

14...Qxf3 15.gxf3 g6 16.Nc4 Nxc4 17.Bxc4 b5

17...O-O 18.e5 Nh5 19.Be3 ± ... f4

18.Bb3 Nd7

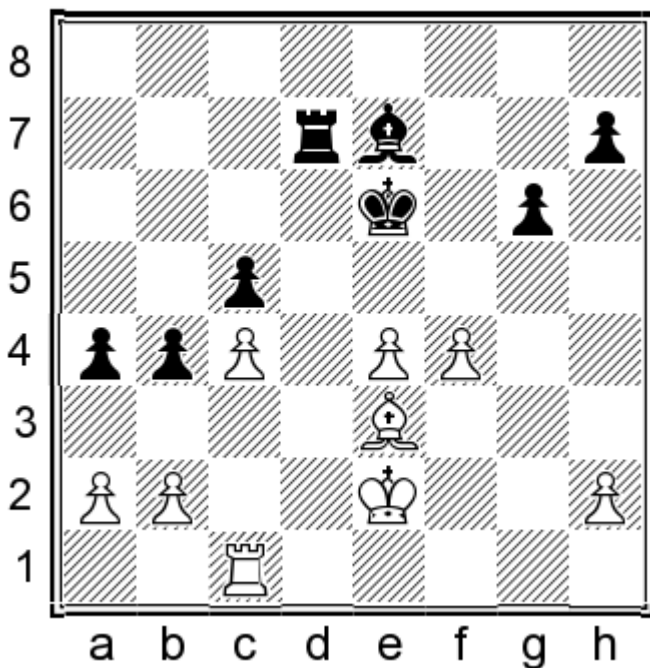
18...Nh5 19.Bh6 Bf8 20.Bxf8 Rxf8 (20...Kxf8 21.Rd7 + -) 21.Rg5 Ke7

22.Re5+ Kf6 23.Rc5 Rac8 24.Rd6+ Kg7 25.Rcxc6 Rxc6 26.Rxc6 + -

19.Bxf7+ Kxf7 20.Rxd7 Ke6 21.Rc7 Rhc8 22.Rxc8 Rxc8 23.Be3 a5 24.Kd2 a4 25.f4 Rd8+ 26.Ke2 Rf8 27.Kf3 Rd8 28.Rc1 c5 29.c4 b4

¹29...Rb8 30.cxb5 Rxb5 31.Rc2 ±

30.Ke2 Rd7



31.Rd1! Rxd1

31...Rc7 32.Rd5 +- ... Kf3, f5

**32.Kxd1 +- Bf8 33.Kc2 Be7 34.b3 a3 35.Kd3 Bf8 36.Bf2 Be7 37.Ke3 Bd8
38.Kf3 Be7 39.Kg4 h5+ 40.Kf3 Bf8 41.Bh4 Bd6**

41...Bg7 42.e5 Bf8 (42...Kf5 43.Be7) 43.Ke4

42.e5 Bc7 43.Ke4 Ba5 44.Bg5 Bb6 45.Bh6

45.Bh6 Ba7 46.Bf8 Bb6 47.Bd6 Ba7 48.Bc7 Kd7 49.Ba5 Ke6 50.h4

1-0

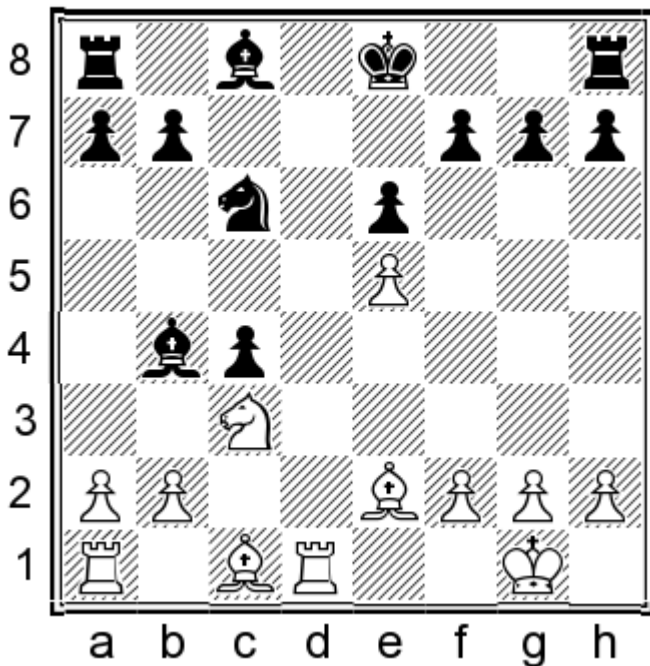
23. * B12

Perunovic, Milos (2568) - Kraus, Tomas (2466)

tornelo.com (Int.-m/1) 148/23, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.Nf3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.c4 e6 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Nxc6

8.Be2!? Nge7 9.O-O dxc4 10.Nxc6 Qxd1 11.Rxd1 Nxc6

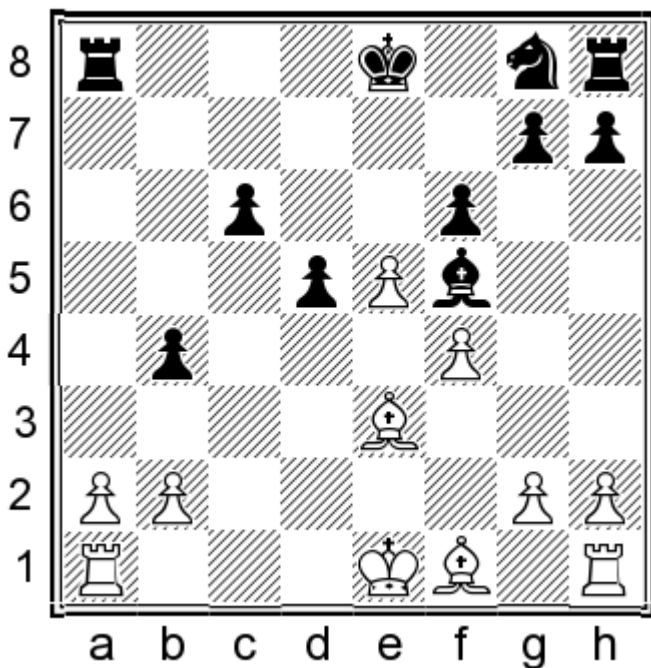


12.Nb5N (12.f4) 12...O-O 13.Bf4 a6 14.Nc3 ∞ Harikrishna,P (2732)-
Esipenko, A (2677) Wijk aan Zee 148/(23) 2021

8...bxc6 9.Qa4

9.Bd3 - 90/75

9...a5 10.cxd5 Qxd5 11.Qxb4 axb4 12.Nxd5 exd5 13.Be3 f6 14.f4 Bf5



15.Kd2!?N

15.Bc5 Kd7 16.Be2 fxe5 (16...Nh6 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Bxb4 Rbh8 19.Ba3²
(19.Bc3 c5 20.Bxf6 d4©)) 17.fxe5 Nh6 18.O-O Rhe8 19.Bxb4 Rxe5 20.Bf3²

15...Kd7

15...fxe5 16.fxe5 Ne7 17.Bc5 Kd7 18.Bd3 Bxd3 19.Kxd3²

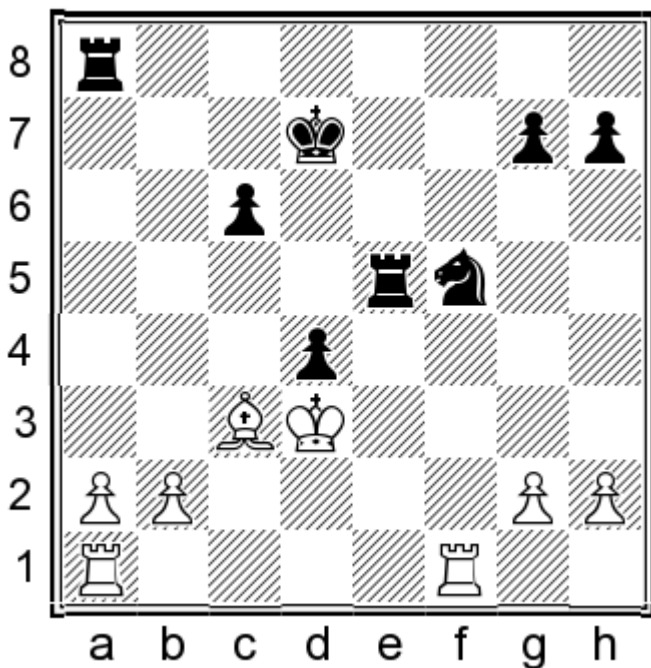
16.Bd3 Nh6 17.Bc5

17.exf6 gxf6 18.Bd4 Rhf8 19.Bc5 Rg8 20.g3 Bxd3 21.Kxd3 Rgb8
(21...Rab8?! 22.a3! bxa3 23.Rxa3 Rb7 24.Rha1²) 22.Rhe1 Nf5 ∞

17...Bxd3 18.Kxd3 fxe5 19.fxe5 Rhe8 20.Rhf1

20.Rhe1 Nf7 21.e6+ Rxe6 22.Rxe6 Kxe6 23.Re1+ Kf5 24.Bxb4²

20...Rxe5 21.Bxb4 Nf5 22.Bc3 d4



23.Bd2

23.Bxd4? Rd5 24.Rf4 Nd6!- +

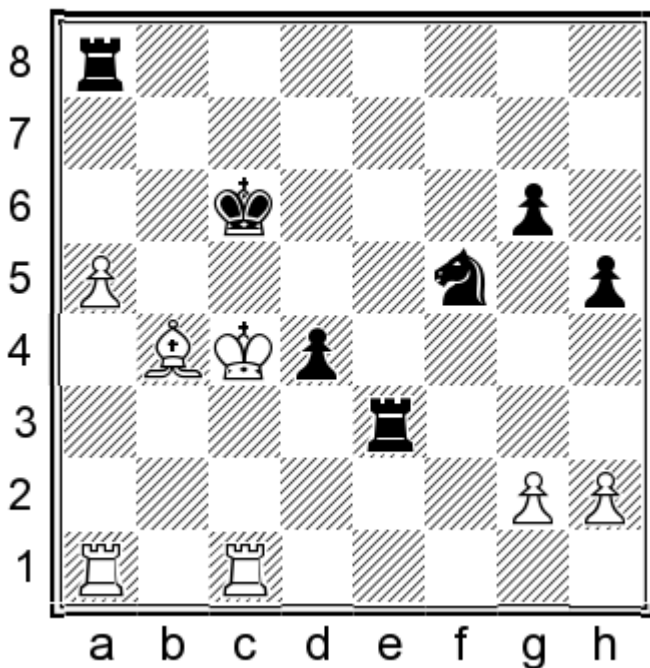
23...h5 24.a4 c5 25.a5

25.b4 Ne3 (25...cxb4 26.Rfb1! Kc6 27.Rxb4 ±) 26.Rfb1²

25...Kc6

25...Ne3! 26.Rfe1 (26.Rf7+?! Ke6 27.Rxg7 c4+- +; 26.Rf3 c4+! 27.Kxd4 Rd5+ 28.Kxe3 Re8+ 29.Kf2 Rxd2+ 30.Kg3 Ree2 ∞) 26...Rae8 27.b3 ∞

26.b4 cxb4 27.Bxb4 Re3+ 28.Kc4 g6 29.Rfc1

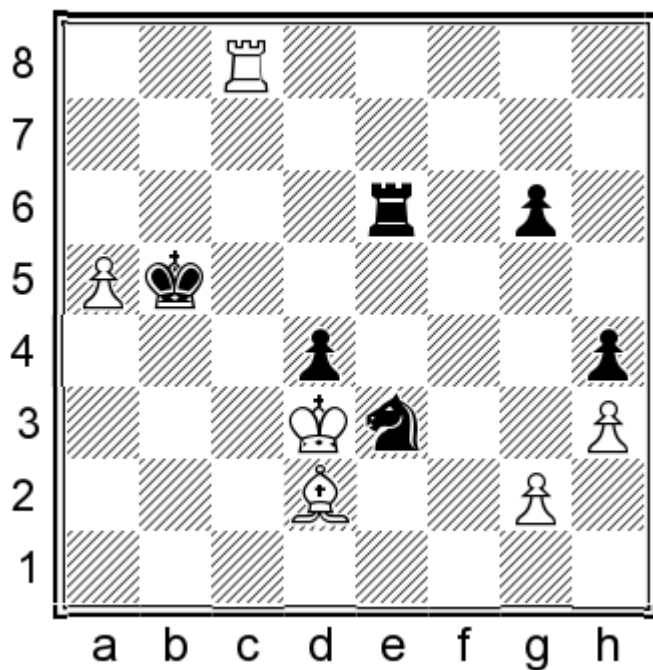


29.a6!? Re2 30.Rfc1 Rxc2 31.a7 Rxh2 32.Ra6+ Kd7 33.Bc5f

29...Ra6?

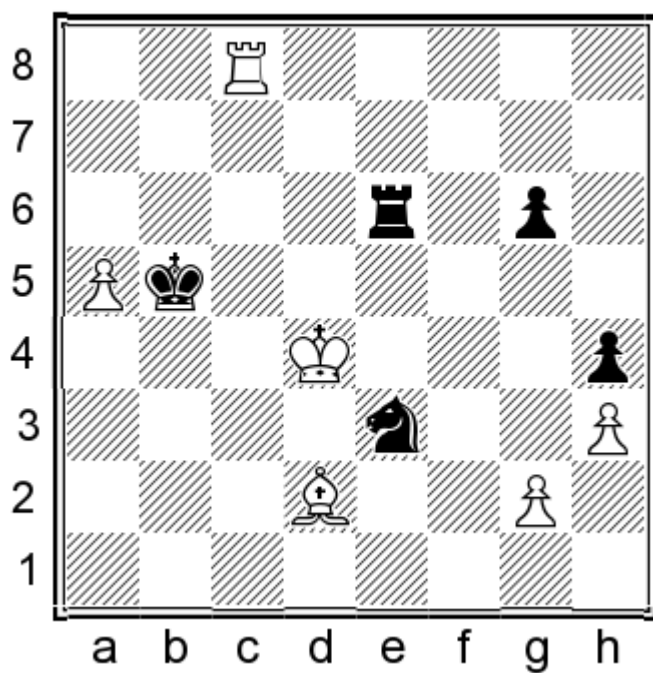
29...Rc8 30.Rab1! (30.Bd2 Kb7+ 31.Kb5 Re5+ 32.Ka4 Rxc1 33.Rxc1 Re2 34.Bf4 (34.Bb4 Rxc2 35.Kb5 Rb2 36.a6+ Kb8 37.Ka5 ∞) 34...Rxc2 35.Rc7+ Ka6 36.Rc6+ Kb7 =) 30...Kb7+ (30...Kd7+ 31.Kb5 Rb8+ 32.Ka4²) 31.Kb5 Re5+ (31...Rxc1 32.a6+! Ka8 33.Rxc1²) 32.Rc5 Rxc5+ 33.Bxc5²

30.Bd2 Re7 31.Rab1 Re5 32.h3 h4 33.Bb4 Re3 34.Bd2 Re5 35.Kd3+ Rc5 36.Bb4 Rxc1 37.Rxc1+ Kb5 38.Bd2 Re6 39.Rc8 Ne3?



39...Rd6²

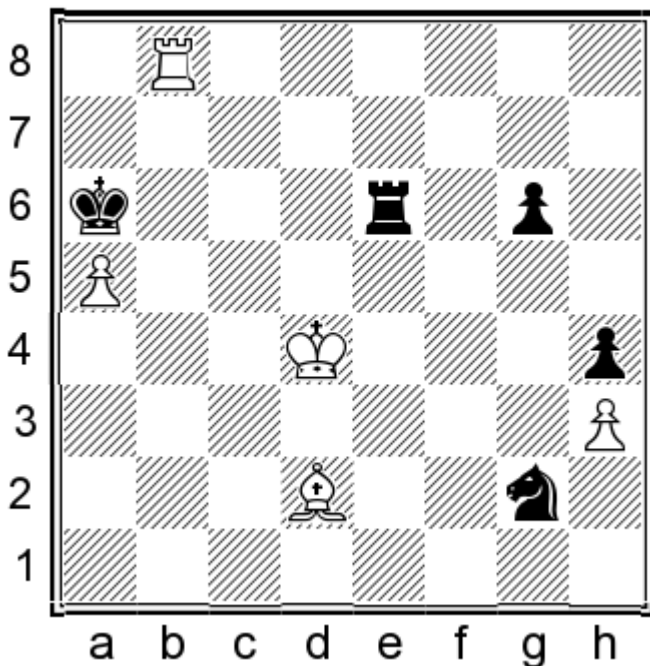
40.Kxd4



40...Nxb2??

40...Nf5+ 41.Kd3 Rd6+ 42.Ke2 Ng3+ 43.Ke1 Re6+ 44.Kd1 ±

41.Rb8+ Ka6



42.Rb6+! Rxb6 43.axb6 Kxb6 44.Ke4 g5 45.Bxg5 Ne1 46.Bxh4 Nc2

47.Bf2+ Kc6 48.Kf5 Kd6

48...Kd7 49.h4 Ke7 50.Kg6 Kf8 51.h5 Kg8 52.h6 +-

49.Kf6 Nb4 50.h4 Nd5+ 51.Kf7 Ke5 52.h5 Kf5 53.h6 Nf6 54.Bh4 Ng4

55.h7 Ne5+ 56.Kg7 Ng6 57.Bd8 1-0

24. * B12

Afanasiev, Nikita (2519) - Rozum, Ivan (2546)

Moscow 148/24, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 c5 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Nc3 Nc6

7...Qxb2? 8.Qb1! Qxb1+ (8...Qxc3+? 9.Bd2 Qxc2 10.Qxb7 +-; 8...Qxc2

9.Qb5+ Nc6 10.Rc1 +- - 111/55; 8...Qb4 9.a3 Qxb1+ 10.Rxb1 c4 11.Rxb7f)

9.Rxb1 c4 10.Rxb7f - 110/68

8.O-O Qxb2 9.Qe1

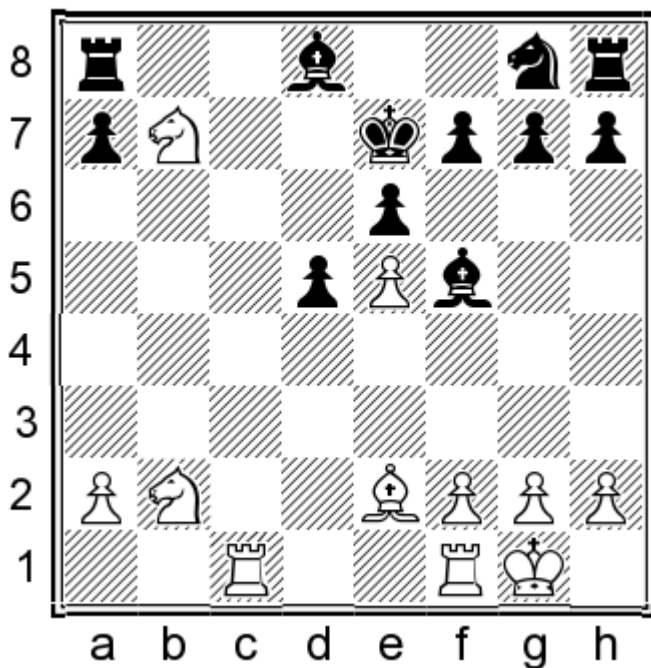
9.Nb5?! c4! 10.Nc7+ Kd7 11.Nxa8 Bxc2 12.Qe1 (12.Qc1) 12...Bb4 13.Bd2

Nge7 14.Bxb4 Nxb4f - 105/(34)

9...cxd4 10.Bxd4 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 Bb4 12.Ndb5 Ba5 13.Rb1 Qxc2 14.Rc1
Qb2 15.Na4

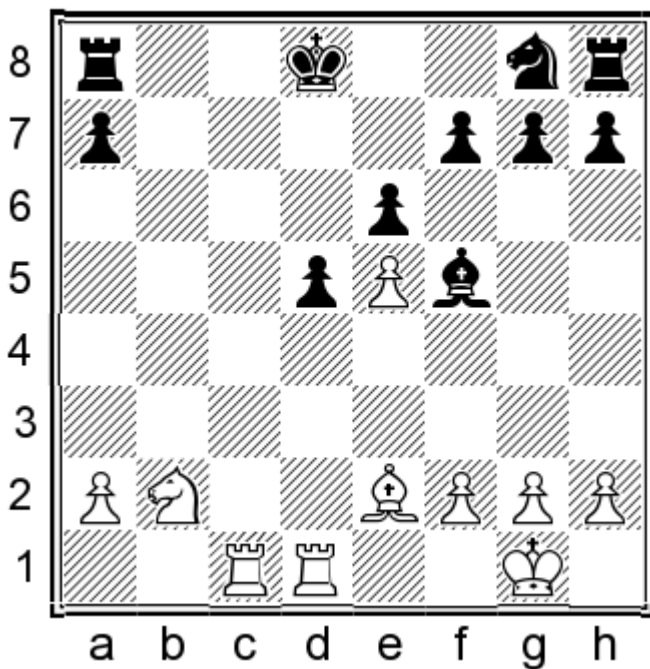
15.g4 - 122/41

15...Bxe1 16.Nxb2 Ba5 17.Nd6+ Ke7 18.Nxb7 Bd8



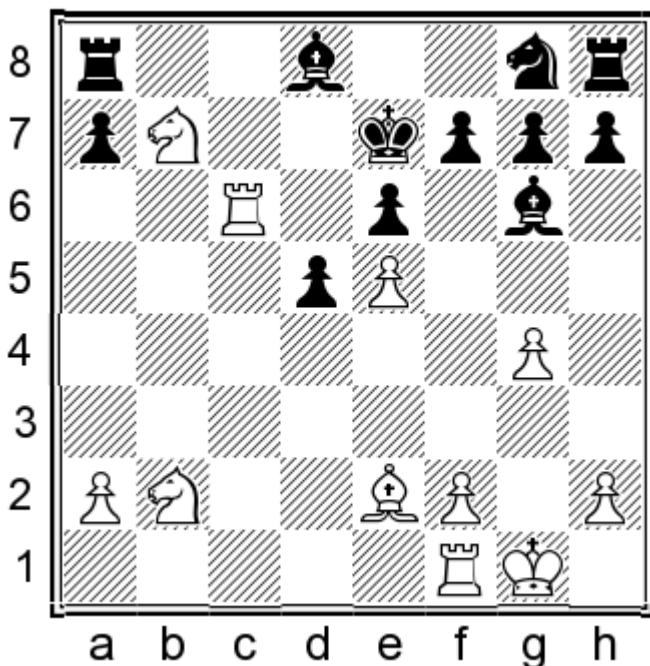
19.g4N

19.Nxd8 - 148/(24) 19...Kxd8 20.Rfd1



20...Ne7N (20...Nh6) 21.Nc4 Rb8 22.Nd6 Bg6 23.Rc3 Nf5 24.Nb5 f6 25.exf6
 (25.Nxa7 Be8 ∞) 25...gxf6 26.Ra3 Rb7 27.g4 Ng7 28.Rc1 Ne8 29.h4 h5
 30.g5© Denisov,T-Villeneuve,R corr 148/(24) 2021

19...Bg6 20.Rc6



20...h5! 21.Nxd8

21.g5 Kf8 22.Rfc1 Ne7 23.Nxd8 Rxd8 24.Rc7 h4! 25.Rxa7 h3 26.Rcc7 Nf5
 27.Bg4 (27.Bd3?! Rh5 28.f4 Rh4 29.Bxf5 Bxf5! 30.Rxf7+ Kg8 31.Rxg7+
 Kh8f ... d4) 27...Rh4 28.Bxf5 Bxf5 29.Rxf7+ Kg8 30.Rxg7+ Kh8 31.f3 Rb8
 32.Nd1 Rd4 33.Ne3 Rd2 34.Rgb7 Rxb7 (34...Rc8 35.Rc7=) 35.Rxb7 Bd3©

**21...Rxd8 22.Rfc1 hxg4 23.Rc7+ Kf8 24.Rc8 Rxc8 25.Rxc8+ Ke7 26.Bb5 f6
 27.Rc7+ Kf8 28.Rc8+ Ke7 29.Rc7+ Kf8 30.Rc8+ 1/2-1/2**

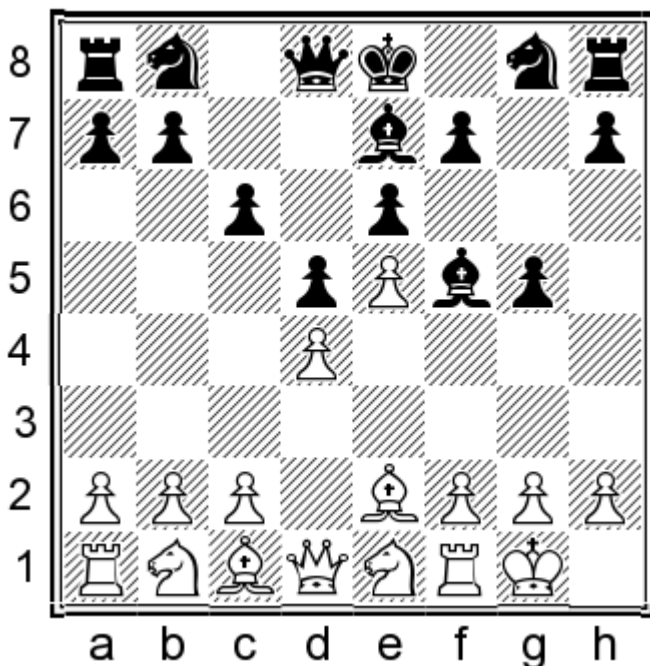
25. B12

Dubov, Daniil (2710) - Suleymanli, Aydin Elshan (2520)
 lichess.org (Int.-blitz) 148/25, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Be7 6.O-O g5

6...h5 - 85/(82)

7.Ne1



7...c5N

7...Bg6 8.c4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nh6 10.Nc3 Nf5 11.Nc2 Nd7 12.Ne3 Qb6 13.Nxf5 Bxf5 14.f4 O-O-O!³

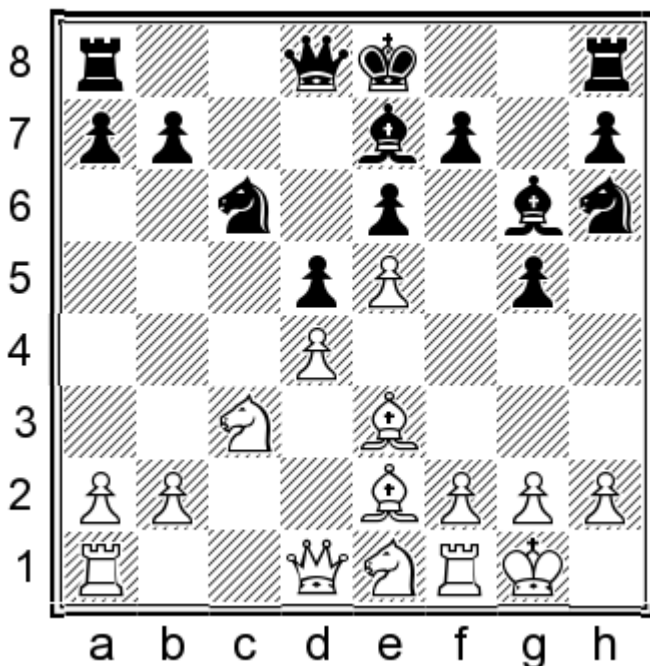
8.c3

8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.Nd2 (9.c4 h6 10.cxd5 Qxd5 11.Qa4+ (11.Qxd5 exd5 12.Nc3 Nc6 13.Nxd5 O-O-O 14.Nc3 Nxe5 =) 11...Qd7 12.Qb3 Nc6 =) 9...h6 10.Bd3 Ne7 11.Bxf5 (11.Qh5 Bg6 12.Qh3 Bf5 =) 11...Nxf5 12.c3 Qc7 13.Nd3 Nd7 14.Nf3 Bb6 15.a4 a6 16.Re1 Nc5 17.Nxc5 Bxc5 18.a5 O-O-O =

8...Nc6 9.Be3 cxd4?!

9...Qb6! 10.b3 Bg6 11.dxc5 Bxc5 12.Bxg5 Nxe5 13.b4 Be7 14.Be3 Qc7 15.f4 Nd7 16.Bd4 Ngf6 17.Nd2 a5 18.a3 O-O 19.Nd3 Rfc8 20.Rc1 Ne4 21.Nxe4 dxe4! (21...Bxe4 22.Nf2 axb4 23.axb4 Bg6 24.Ng4 Ra2 25.Nh6+ Kf8 26.f5 ±) 22.Ne5 Nxe5 23.Bxe5 Qb6+ 24.Kh1 axb4 25.axb4 Ra2,,

10.cxd4² Bg6 11.Nc3 Nh6?!



11...h5! 12.Na4 h4 13.Rc1 Nh6 (13...h3 14.g4 ±) 14.Nc5 Qb6 (14...Rb8 15.Bh5 Rg8 16.Nxb7 Rxb7 17.Rxc6 Rxb2 18.Bxg6 Rxg6 19.Nd3 Rb8 20.Ra6 ±) 15.Qa4 Bxc5 16.dxc5 Qxb2 17.Bb5 O-O 18.Bxg5 Nf5 19.Nd3 Qd4 20.Rfd1 Qxa4 21.Bxa4 Rfc8 22.Nf4 (22.Bxc6 Rxc6 23.h3 Rac8 =) 22...Ncd4 23.h3 b5 24.cxb6 Rxc1 25.Rxc1 axb6 26.Bb3 ±

12.Bd3?

12.g4! Ng8 13.Rc1 h5 14.gxh5 Bf5 15.Kh1 (15.Nd3 Nh6 16.Re1 Rc8 17.Na4²) 15...Nh6 16.Rg1 a6 17.Qd2 ±

12...Nf5 = 13.Bxf5 Bxf5 14.Rc1 h5 15.Qb3?!

15.Nd3 g4 16.Nf4 h4 17.f3 g3 18.hxg3 hxg3 19.Nce2 Bh4 20.Rc3 Qd7 =

15...Na5?!

15...Qb6! 16.Qxb6 axb6 17.Nf3 g4 18.Ne1 f6 19.exf6 Bxf6 20.f3 O-O (20...Bxd4 21.Bxd4 Nxd4 22.fxg4 hxg4 23.Rd1 Nc6 24.Nxd5 Rxa2 25.Nf6+ Ke7 26.Nd5+ =) 21.fxg4 hxg4 22.Rd1 Bg7 23.a3 Na5³

16.Qb5+ Kf8 17.Qe2

17.Na4 b6 18.b3 Kg7 19.Qe2 Rc8 20.Nd3 Nc6 =

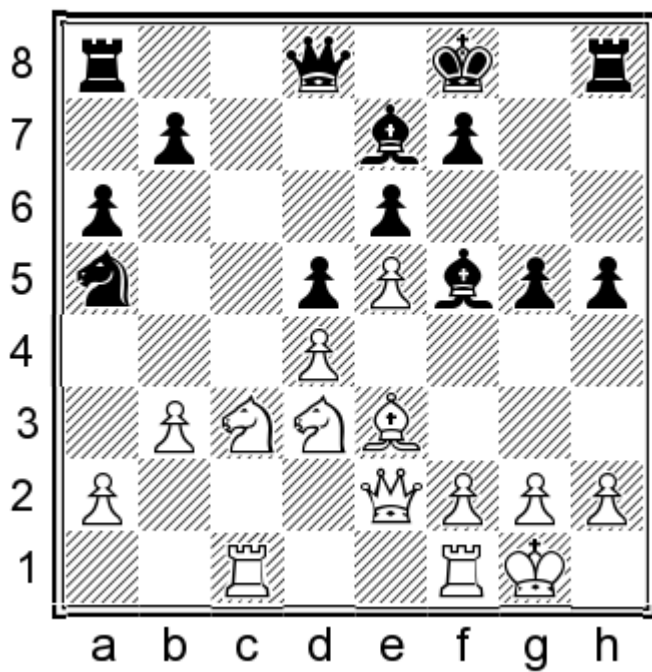
17...a6

17...Rc8 18.Nd3 Nc4f

18.Nd3 Nc4

18...Kg7 19.b3 Ba3 20.Qd2 Kg6 21.Rc2 Rc8 22.f3 =

19.b3 Na5



19...Nxe3 20.fxe3 Kg7 21.Na4 Bg6 22.Ndc5 Ra7 =

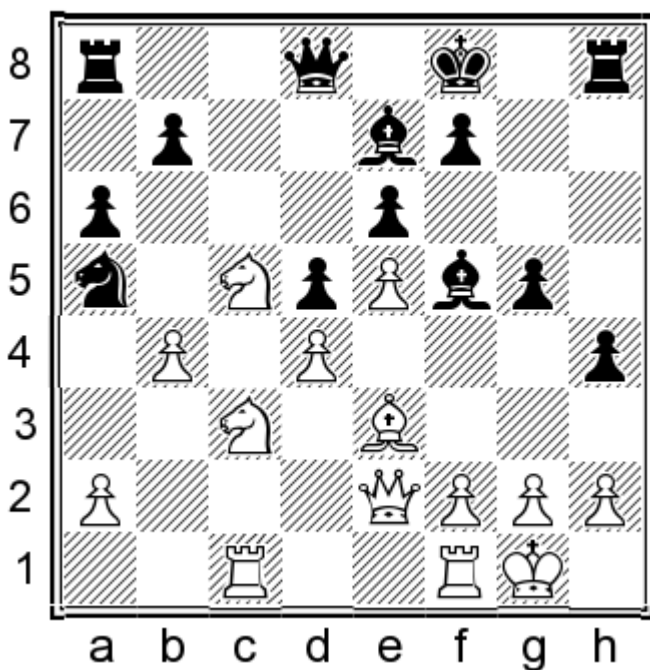
20.Nc5

20.Na4! Kg7 (20...Rc8 21.Ndc5 Kg7 22.b4 Nc4 23.Nxb7 Qe8 24.Nac5 Qb5 25.Qe1 h4 26.a4 Qb6 27.h3 ±) 21.Nac5 (21.Qd2 h4 22.Rc3 h3 23.g3) 21...Ra7 22.Nb4²

20...h4

20...Bxc5 21.dxc5 Nc6 22.Rfd1 h4 23.Na4 Qe7 (23...g4 24.Nb6 Rb8 25.Nc4 h3 26.Nd6 Rh5 27.g3) 24.h3 Rg8 25.f3 Rd8 26.Bd4²

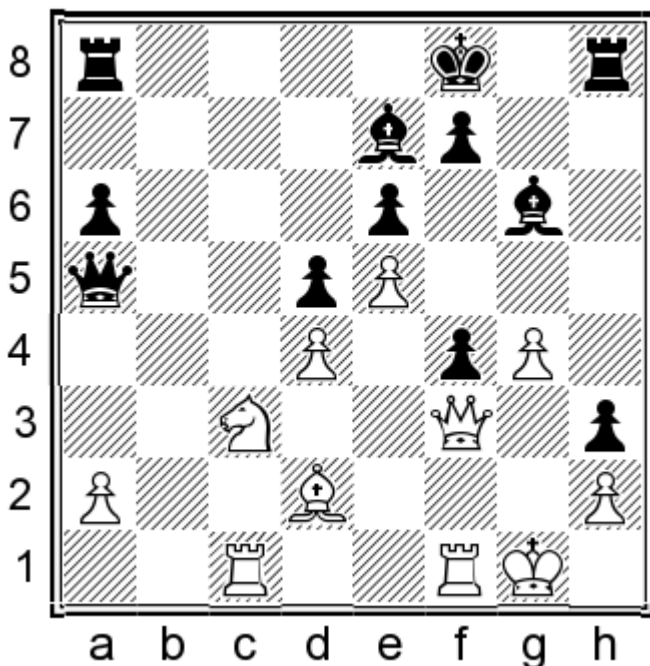
21.b4



21.N3a4 Kg7 22.h3 Rh6 23.b4 Nc4 24.Nxb7 Qe8 25.Nac5 Rg6

21...Nc6?!

21...Nc4! 22.Nxb7 Qb6 23.Na5 (23.Nc5 Qxb4 24.Qf3 Rd8³) 23...Nxa5 24.bxa5 Qxa5 25.Bd2 h3 26.g4 Bg6 27.f4 gxf4 28.Qf3



28...Rh4! 29.Be1 Rh7 30.Qxf4 Qd8 31.Bd2 Ba3 32.Ra1 Rc8³

22.Nxb7 ± Qb6 23.Nd6 Bg6

23...Bxd6 24.exd6 Nxb4 25.Na4 Qxd6 26.Rc3 Kg7 27.Rfc1 a5 28.Bxg5 f6
29.Be3

24.f4

24.a3 + -

24...Qxb4

24...Bxd6 25.exd6 Nxb4 26.d7 Qc6 27.f5 Bxf5 28.Bxg5 Qxd7 29.a3 Nc6
30.Na4 Qa7 31.Nc5 Kg8 32.Qe3 Rh5 33.Bf6 Kh7 34.Nxe6 fxe6 (34...Bxe6
35.Qd3+ Kg8 36.Qf3 Rh6 37.Rxc6 + -) 35.Rxc6 Qf7 36.Be5 Ra7 37.Rfc1 Re7
38.Rc7 Kg6 39.Qf4 + -

25.f5 + - Nxd4 26.Bxd4??

26.Qf2! Nxf5 27.Nxd5 Bxd6 (27...Qg4 28.Nxe7 Nxe7 29.Nxf7 Bf5
30.Nxh8 + -) 28.Nxb4 Bxb4 29.Bxg5 + -

26...Qxd4+³ 27.Kh1

27.Qf2 Qxf2+ 28.Rxf2 exf5 29.Nxd5 f4 30.Nxe7 Kxe7³

27...Bh5μ 28.Qe1 Rh6

28...h3! 29.gxh3 Qd3 30.Qg3 Qxg3 31.hxg3 Bxd6 32.exd6 Bg4 33.fxe6 Bxe6

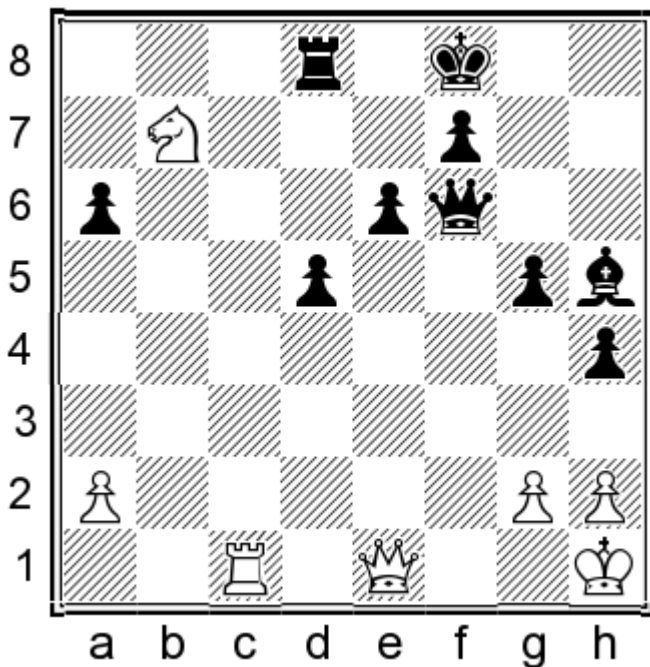
34.Rfd1 Rh6 (34...Rxxh3+ 35.Kg2 Rh6 36.Nxd5 Bh3+ 37.Kf3 Rxd6³) 35.Kg1 Rd8 36.Nxd5 Rxd6 37.Nc3 Rb6μ

29.f6?

29.h3 Kg8 30.Nb1 Rd8 31.Nd2 Bxd6 32.exd6 Qf6 33.d7 Rxd7 34.Rc8+ Kg7 35.Nb3 Re7³

29...Bxd6- + 30.exd6 Rxf6 31.Rxf6 Qxf6 32.Na4 h3

32...Rd8 33.d7 Rxd7 34.Nc5 Rd8 35.Nb7



35...Ra8!

33.Qb4

33.Qe3 hxg2+ 34.Kxg2 d4 35.Qg3 Be2 36.Nc5 Qf5 37.Qf2 d3

33...hxg2+ 34.Kg1 Be2 35.Kxg2

35.d7+ Kg8 36.Qe1 Qf1+ 37.Qxf1 gxf1=Q+ 38.Rxf1 Bxf1 39.Kxf1 Kf8

35...Qf3+ 36.Kg1 Qe3+ 37.Kg2 Bf3+ 38.Kg3 Be4+ 39.Kg4 Qf4+ 40.Kh5 Qh4# 0-1

26. B12

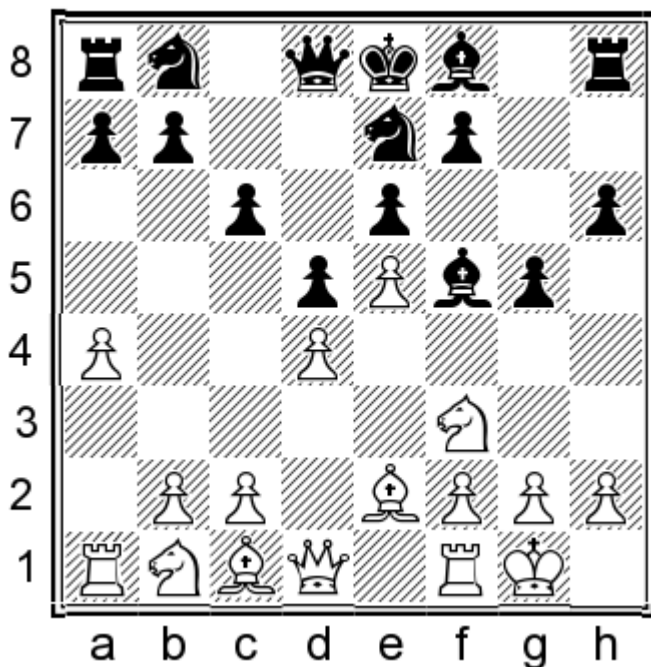
So, Wesley (2770) - Firouzja, Alireza (2759)
chess24.com (Int.-m1/3-rapid) 148/26, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Ne7 6.O-O h6 7.a4

7.b3 - 135/ 40

7.Nbd2 - 148/27

7...g5



8.a5N

8.c4; 8.Ne1

8...a6 9.b4 Nd7 10.c3 f6 11.exf6

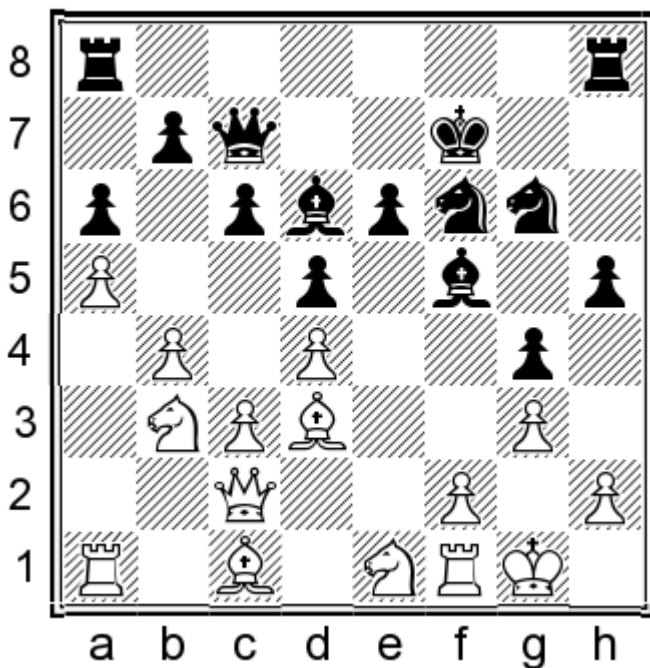
11.Be3 Bg7 (11...Qc7 12.exf6 Ng6 13.Ne5 Ngxe5 14.dxe5 O-O-O 15.Bd4 (15.Na3 Qxe5 16.b5?! cxb5 17.Nxb5 axb5 18.a6 Bc5 19.Bd4 (19.a7 Kc7) 19...Qd6 20.Bxb5 b6 21.Re1 Kc7) 15...Nxe5 16.Bb6 Qf7 17.Bxd8 Kxd8 18.Qd4 Bd6 19.Nd2²) 12.exf6 Bxf6 13.Nbd2²

11...Ng6 12.f7+ Kxf7 13.Nbd2 Bd6 14.Nb3 Qc7 15.g3

15.h3 Nf6 16.Nc5 ∞

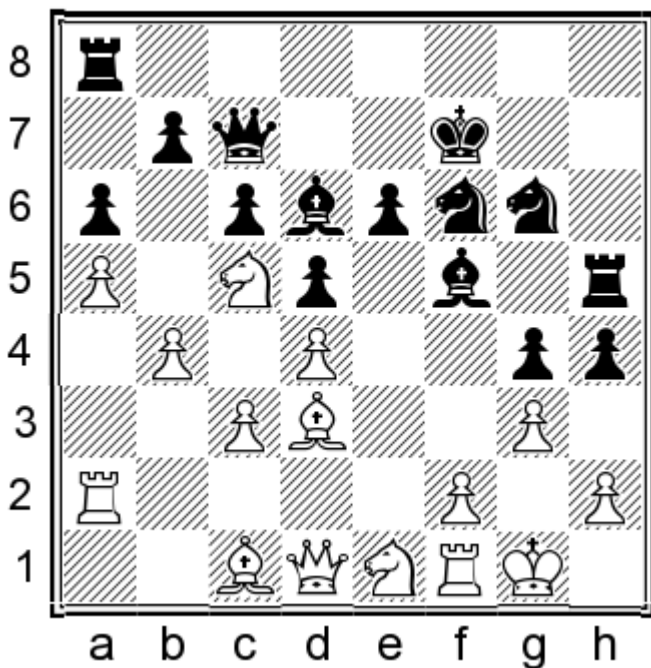
15...Nf6 16.Bd3 g4 17.Ne1 h5 18.Ra2

18.Qc2



18...Raf8! 19.Nc5 (19.Bxf5?! exf5 20.Qxf5 Kg7 21.Qc2 h4→) 19...Bxc5
 20.bxc5 Kg7 21.Bxf5 exf5 22.Nd3 h4 23.Bf4 Qf7 24.Rab1 Rh7 ∞

18...h4 19.Nc5 Rh5?



19...Rag8 20.Bg5 Ne4 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Ng2 Rh5 23.Qc1 h3 (23...Rgh8
24.Nf4 Rxc5 25.Nfxe6 Bxe6 26.Nxe6 Kxe6 27.Qxg5 Qf7 28.Qxg4+ Qf5
29.Qxf5+ Kxf5 30.Re2 Ne7 31.Rfe1 Nd5 32.Rxe4 hxg3 33.hxg3 Nxc3
34.R4e3 Nb5 ∞) 24.Nf4 Rxc5 25.Nfxe6 Bxe6 26.Nxe6 Kxe6 27.Qxg5 Ne7
28.Qh6+ Rg6 29.Qe3 Kd7 30.Qxe4 ∞

20.Re2?

20.f3! hxg3 (20...gxf3 21.Nxf3 hxg3 22.Ng5+) 21.fxc4 g2 22.Rxc2 Bxh2+
23.Kf2 Nf4 24.Bxf5! (24.gxh5 Nxg2 25.Bxf5 Qg3+ 26.Ke2 exf5 ∞) 24...exf5
25.gxh5 Nxg2 26.Qd3! (26.Nxc2? Qg3+ 27.Ke2 Qxc2+ 28.Kd3 Rg8 29.Qe2
Qh3+ 30.Rf3 Qxh5 31.Rf2 Qxe2+ (31...Qh3+ 32.Kc2) 32.Kxe2 =) 26...Nh4
27.Ng2! Nxg2 28.Kxc2 Rg8+ 29.Kh1 +-

**20...hxg3 21.fxc3 Bxc3 22.hxc3 Qxc3+ 23.Rg2 Qh3- + 24.Nxe6!? Bxe6
25.Nf3 Nh4?**

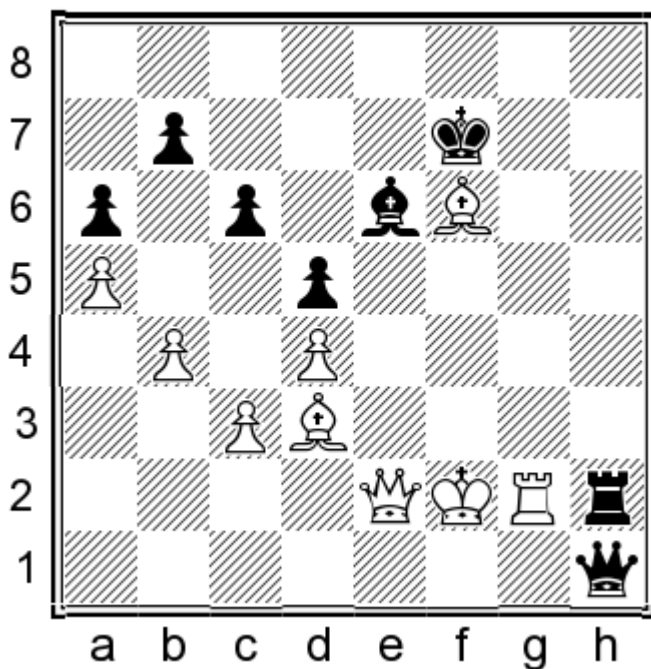
25...gxf3 26.Bxc6+ Ke7 27.Qxf3 Qxf3 28.Rxf3 Rh3 = ; 25...Qxc2+! 26.Kxc2
gxf3+ 27.Kf2 (27.Rxf3 Nh4+- +) 27...Rh2+ 28.Ke3 (28.Kg3 Rah8- +)
28...Re8 29.Bxc6+ Kxc6- +

26.Nxh4 Qxc4 27.Bf4 ∞ Rah8

27...Qh1+ 28.Kf2 Qh3 (28...Qh4+ 29.Ke3) 29.Rh2 Qxc2+ 30.Bxh2 Rxc2+
31.Kg1 Rah8 32.Qc1 Rh1+ 33.Kg2 (33.Kf2?? g3+! 34.Kf3 (34.Kxc3 R1h3+

35.Kf2 Rxd3-+; 34.Kg2 Bh3+ 35.Kxh1 Bxf1+ 36.Kg1 Bxd3-+)) 33...R1h2+ 34.Kg1 g3 35.Qf4 Rh1+ 36.Kg2 Bh3+ 37.Kxg3 Bxf1 38.Qc7+ Ke6 (38...Kf8 39.Qd6+=) 39.Qe5+ Kf7 40.Qc7+=

28.Qe2 Qh1+ 29.Kf2 Qh4+ 30.Kg1 g3 31.Bxg3 Qh3 32.Be5 R5h6 33.Rxf6+ Rxf6 34.Bxf6 Qh1+ 35.Kf2 Rh2



36.Rxh2?

36.Bg6+! Kf8 (36...Kxf6 37.Qe5++-) 37.Qf3 +-

36...Qxh2+ 37.Ke1 Qg3+ 38.Kd2 Kxf6 39.Qe5+!?

39.Qe3 =

39...Qxe5 40.dxe5+ Kxe5 41.Ke3 = Bf5 42.Be2 Be4 43.Bg4 Bf5 44.Bf3 Be6 45.Bg2 Bg4 46.Bh1 Bf5 47.Bg2 Bd7 48.Bf3 Bh3 49.Bh1 Bf1 50.Bf3 Bb5 51.Bg2 Ba4 52.Bf3 Bc2 53.Bg2 Bb1 54.Bf3 Be4 55.Bg4 Bg2 56.Bc8 d4+ 57.cxd4+ Kd5 58.Kd3 Bf1+ 59.Kc3 Kd6 60.d5 Kc7 61.Be6 cxd5 62.Bxd5 b6 63.axb6+ Kxb6 64.Bc4 Bxc4 65.Kxc4 a5 66.bxa5+ Kxa5 1/2-1/2

27. * B12

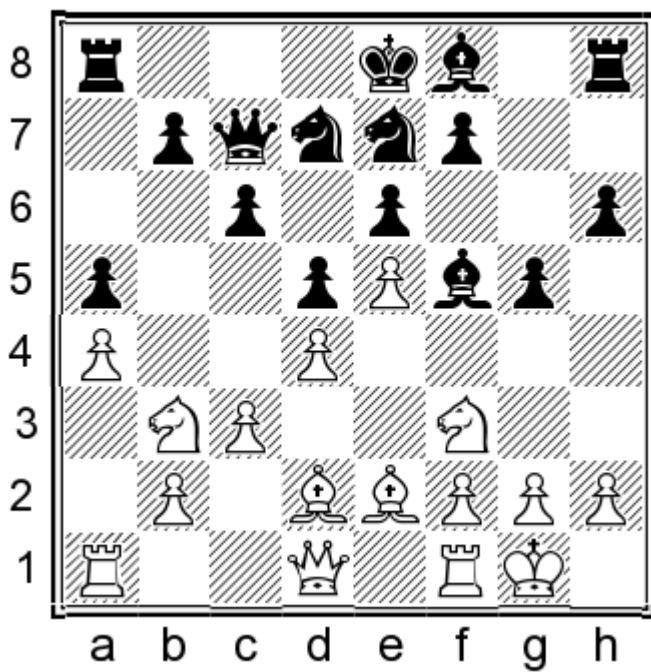
So, Wesley (2770) - Firouzja, Alireza (2759)
chess24.com (Int.-m2/2-rapid) 148/27, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Ne7 6.O-O h6 7.Nbd2 Nd7 8.Nb3

g5 9.Bd2 a5

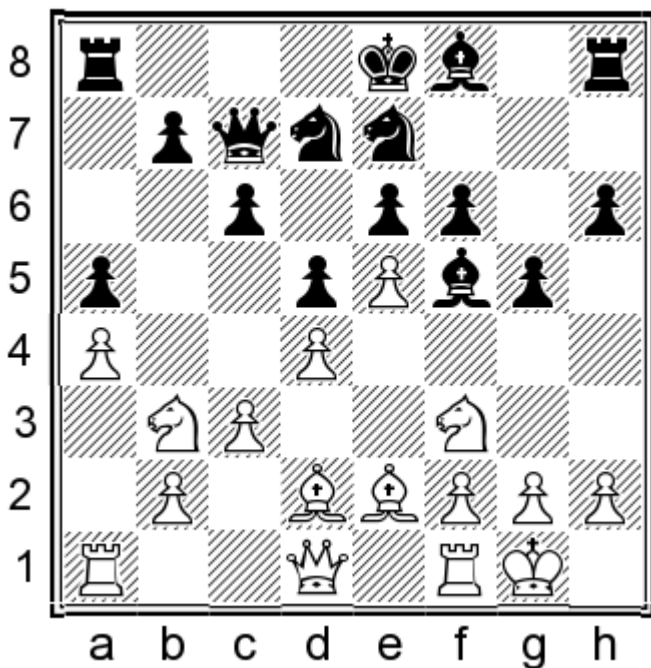
9...Bg7 - 104/26

10.a4 Qc7 11.c3



11.c4 - 135/(41)

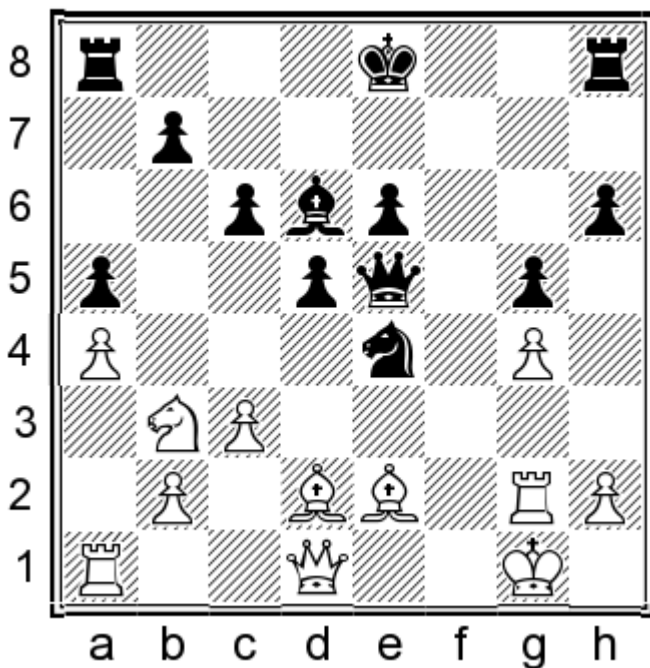
11...f6N



¹11...Bg7 12.Ne1 c5 13.Bb5 Nc6 14.f4 c4 15.Nc1 O-O-O 16.Ne2 f6 17.Ng3 Bg6 18.Nh5 Bf8! 19.Nxf6 Nxf6 20.exf6 Bd6©

12.exf6 Ng6 - 148/27

12...Nxf6N 13.Ne5 Ng6 14.g4 Be4 15.f3 Nxe5 16.dxe5 (16.fxe4 Ned7 17.e5 Ne4 18.Be3 ±) 16...Qxe5 17.fxe4 Bd6 18.Rf2 Nxe4 19.Rg2

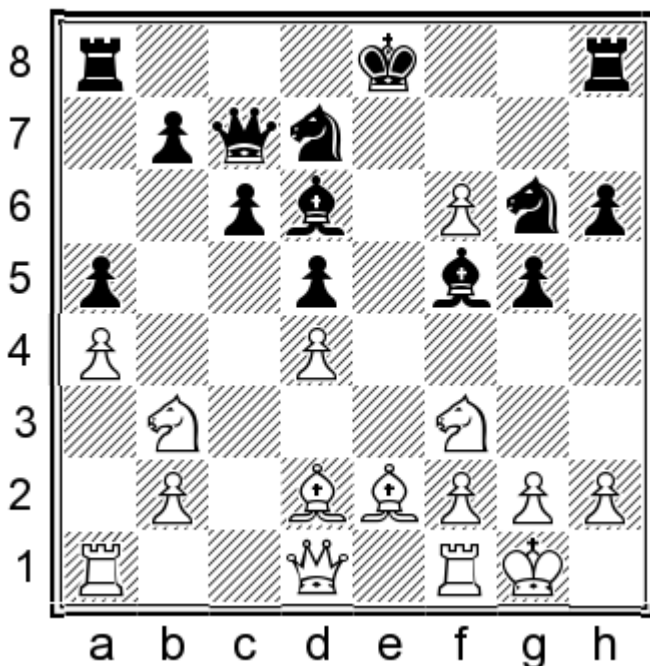


19...Nxd2 (19...O-O-O 20.Be3 Nxc3 21.Qd3 $\pm$) 20.Qxd2 Rf8 21.Re1 Qf4
 22.Qd3 O-O-O 23.Kh1 Bc7 24.Nd4 Rf6 25.Rf1 Qe5 26.Rxf6 Qxf6 27.Qe3
 Re8 28.Rf2 Bf4 29.Nb3 Qg6 30.Qd3 Qxd3 31.Bxd3 Kc7 32.c4 1-0 (32) Lee,
 M-Morihaman,N corr 148/(27) 2021

13.c4 Bd6

13...Nxf6 14.Ne5f

14.cxd5 exd5



15.Bd3! Bxd3 16.Bxa5 Rxa5 17.Qxd3 Kf7 18.Nxa5 Qxa5

¹18...g4 19.Ne5+ Ndx5 20.dxe5 Bxe5 21.Nb3 ±

19.Qf5 Qd8 20.Rae1 Ngf8 21.Re7+! Bxe7 22.fxe7+ Kxe7 23.Re1+ Kd6
24.Ne5 Rh7 25.Nxd7 Qxd7 26.Qe5# 1-0

28. *** B13

Antipov, Mikhail Al (2609) - Esipenko, Andrey (2701)

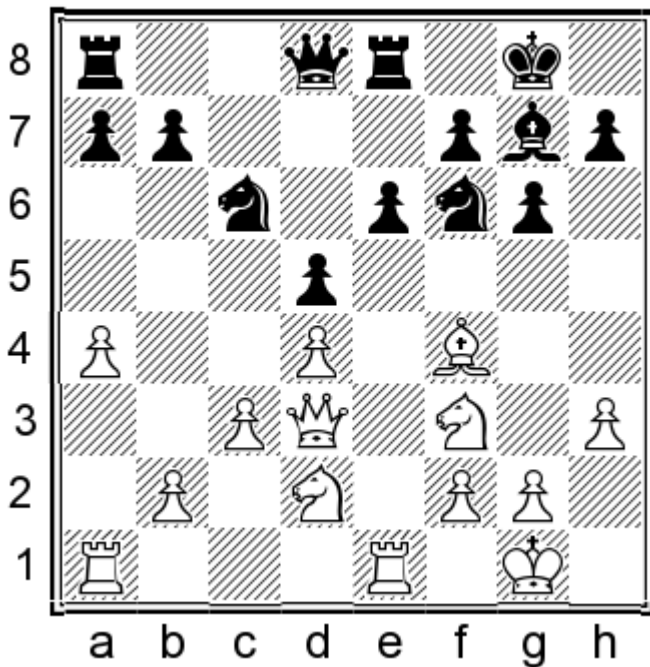
Russia 148/28, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nf6 5.h3 Nc6 6.c3 g6

6...Qc7 - 109/ (57)

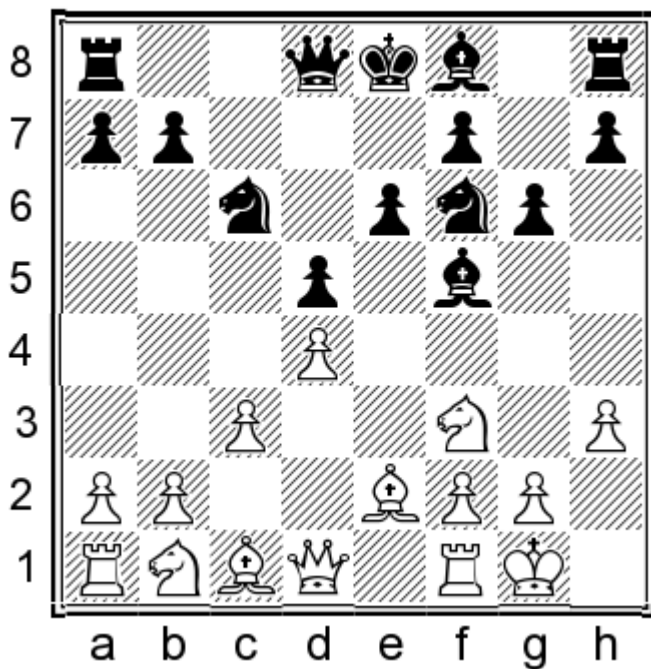
7.Nf3 Bf5 8.Be2!?

8.O-O Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Bg7 10.Bf4 O-O 11.Nbd2 e6 12.Rfe1 Re8 13.a4



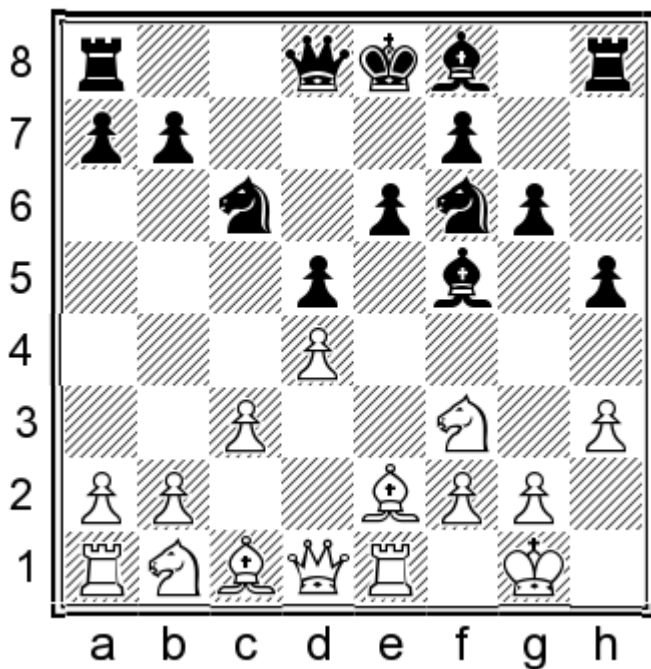
13...Rc8N (13...b6) 14.Qb5 Re7 15.a5 a6 16.Qa4 Re8 17.Re2 Bf8 18.Ne1 Bd6
 19.Bxd6 Qxd6 20.Nd3 Qc7∞ Grandelius,N (2670)-Van Foreest,J (2701)
 tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(28) 2021

8...e6!? 9.O-O

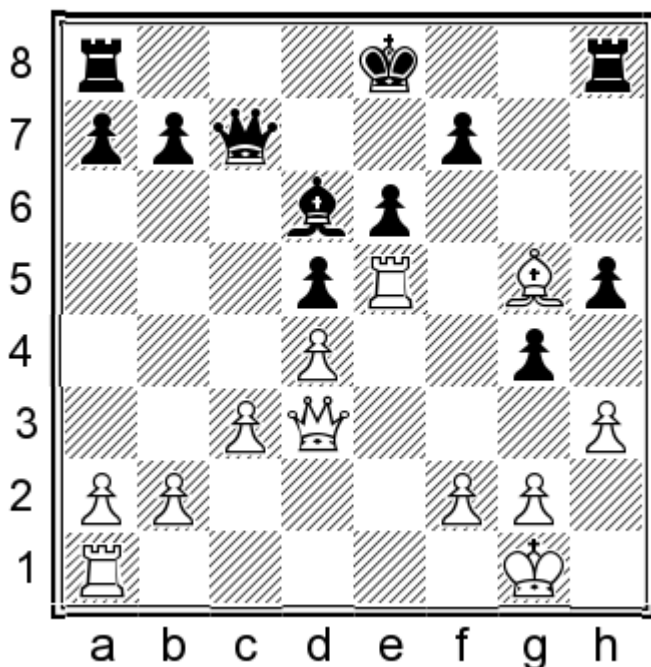


9...a6N

9...h5 - 148/(28) 10.Re1

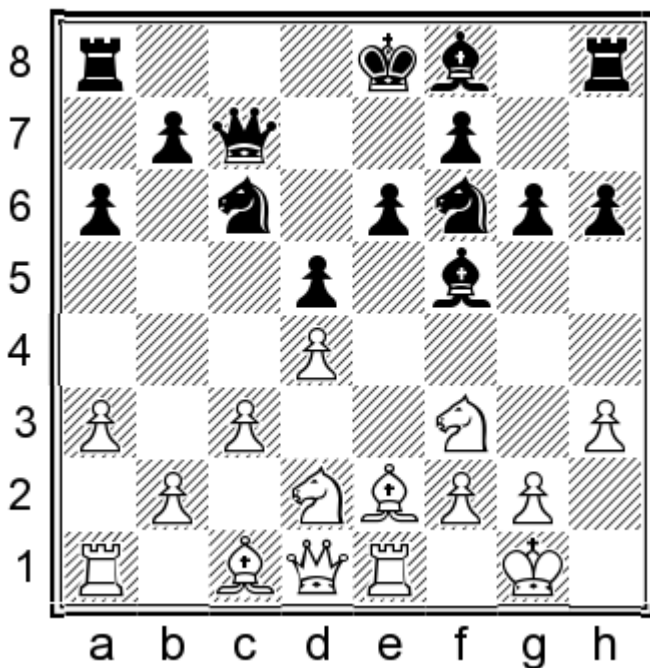


10...Ne4N - 148/(28) (10...Bd6; 10...Be7N 11.Bb5 Qc7 12.Bg5 a6 (12...O-O 13.Nbd2 Ne4) 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.Nbd2 O-O Antipov,M (2609)-Shuvalova,P (2476) tornelo.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(28) 2021 (14...O-O 15.Ne5f)) 11.Nbd2 Nd6 12.Nf1 Be7 13.Ng3 Ne4 14.Nxe4 (14.Nxf5 exf5!∞ (14...gxf5 15.Bb5² × Ke8)) 14...Bxe4 15.Bd3 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 g5!? 17.Ne5 Nxe5 18.Rxe5 g4 19.Bd2 Bd6 20.Bg5 Qc7



21.Re2?! (21.Re3f) 21...Kd7 (21...gxh3 22.Qxh3 Kd7∞ ... Rag8) 22.h4 Qc4 23.Qxc4 (23.Qd2 ... b3, c4f) 23...dxc4 = Quintiliano Pinto,R (2469) - Fedoseev,V (2674) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(28) 2020

10.Re1 h6 11.a3 Qc7 12.Nbd2



12.c4? Rd8 13.Nc3 dxc4 14.Bxc4 Nxd4μ

12...g5!? 13.c4?!

13.Nf1 g4 14.Nh4 ∞

13...Rd8 14.c5?

14.b4 g4 15.Nh4 Bh7 16.hxg4 dxc4³

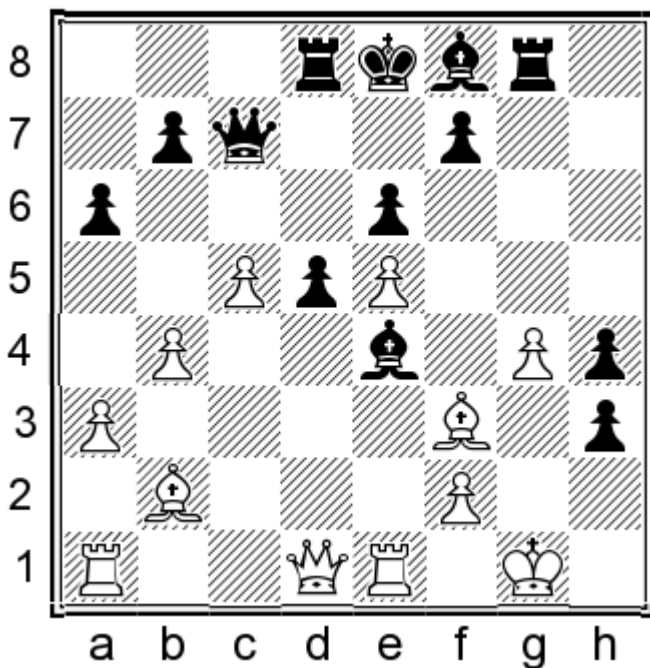
14...Ne4! 15.b4 h5?!

15...Bg7 16.Bb2 h5!μ

16.Bb2?

16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.Nxg5 Nxd4 18.Bd2 Bh6 19.Bf1μ

16...g4 17.Ne5 gxh3 18.Nxe4 Bxe4 19.Bf3 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Rg8 21.g3 h4
22.g4



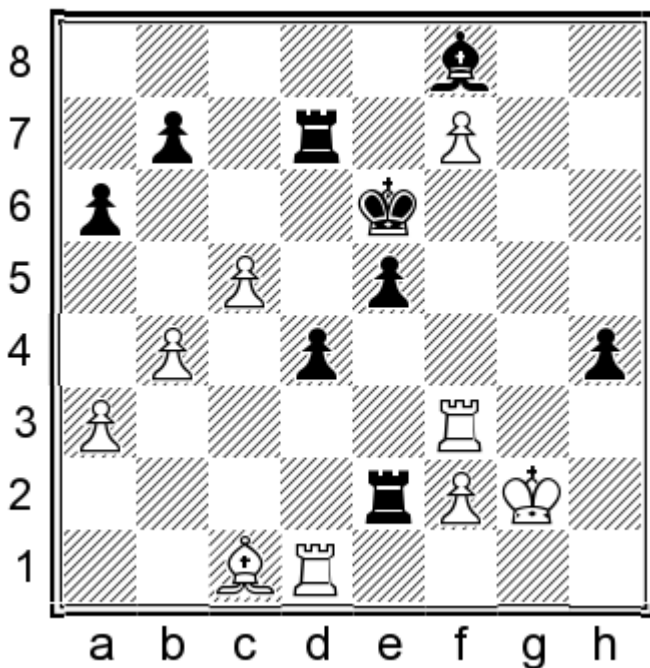
22...f5! 23.exf6 Rxc4+! 24.Kh1 Qf4 25.Re3

25.Bxe4 dxe4 26.Qb3 Kf7 27.Qxh3 Rd3 28.Re3 Qf5 29.Be5 Bh6- +

25...Bxf3+ 26.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 27.Rxf3 Kf7 28.Kh2 Re4 29.Kxh3 d4 30.Rd1 e5?

30...Bh6!- +

31.Bc1 Rd7 32.Kg2 Ke6 33.f7 Re2



34.Kf1??

34.Bg5! Rxf7 35.Rxf7 Kxf7 36.Kf3 Ra2 37.Bxh4 Rxa3+³

34...Rc2!-+ 35.Bg5 Rxf7 36.Rxf7 Kxf7 37.Bxh4 Bg7 38.f3 Ke6 39.Rb1 Bf8
40.Re1 Bh6 41.Bg3 Be3 42.Re2 Rc1+ 43.Re1 Rc2 44.Re2 Rc3 45.Bf2 Rxa3
46.Bxe3 Rxe3 0-1

29. IN B13

Ristic, Nenad (2331) - Szuhanek, Ranko (2446)

Srbija 148/29, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Be6 7.Be2 Qa5
8.Bf3 Rd8!

8...dxc4 9.d5 - 129/44

9.c5!?

9.Bxf6; 9.Bd2

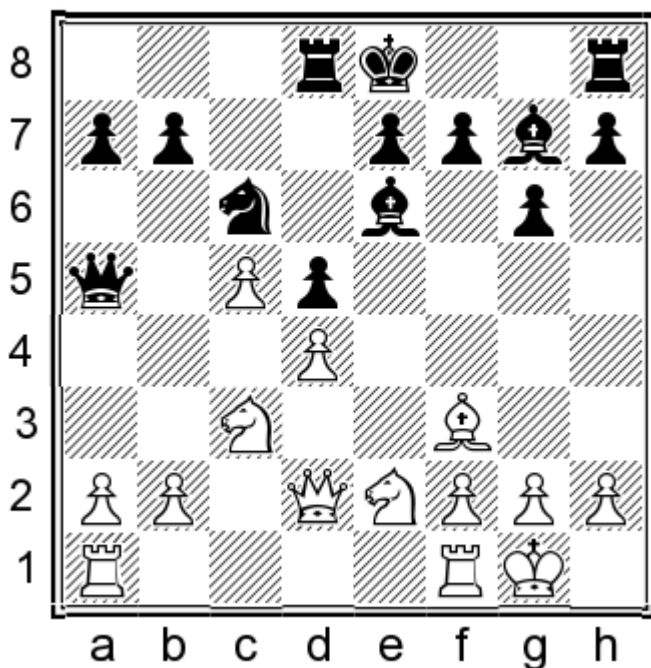
9...Ne4 10.Bd2

10.Bxe4 dxe4 11.Ne2 g6 12.O-O Bg7 13.Be3 Bc4 14.Nxe4 O-O 15.Re1 Bxe2
16.Qxe2 Nxd4 17.Qc4 Nc6 18.Rab1 a6³

10...Nxd2 11.Qxd2 g6

11...Bf5 12.Nge2 e6 13.O-O Be7 14.a3 Qc7 15.g3 b6 16.cxb6 Qxb6 17.b4 h6
18.h4 O-O 19.Na4 Qb8 20.Rac1 Rc8 21.Nc5 Rfe8³

12.Nge2 Bg7 13.O-O



13...b6!N

13...O-O 14.Rfd1 b6 =

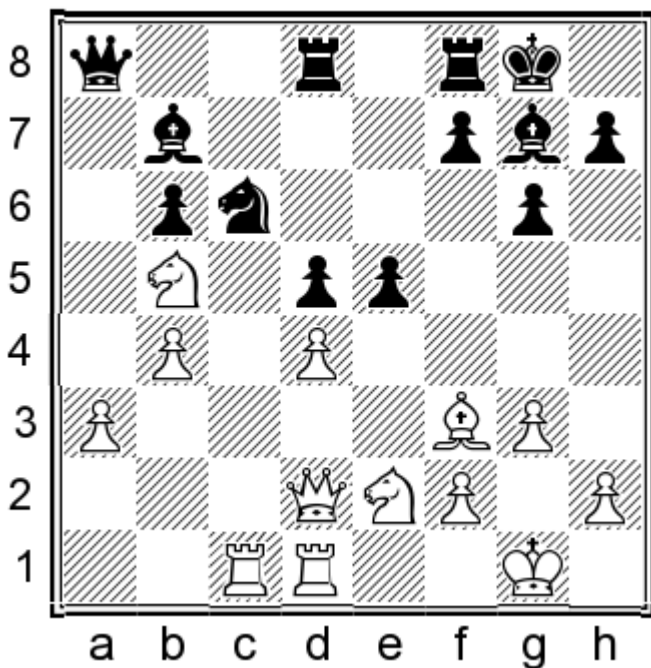
14.cxb6 axb6 15.a3 O-O 16.b4 Qa8 17.Nb5?!

17.Qe3 Rd7 18.Rfd1 h5 19.h3 Rc8 20.Nf4 Bh6 21.Nce2 Bf5 22.Qb3 e6 23.g4
hxg4 24.hxg4 Be4 25.Bxe4 dxe4 26.d5 Ne5 27.dxe6 Ra7 28.Qd5 (28.exf7+
Rxf7 29.Nxg6 Nxg6 30.Rd6 Ne5 31.Rxh6 Nf3+ 32.Kg2 e3 33.Qxe3 Nh4+
34.Kh3 Rf3+ 35.Kxh4 Rxe3 36.fxe3 Qf3 37.Nd4 Qf2+ 38.Kh5 Qh2+ 39.Kg5
Qe5+ 40.Kh4 Rc7 41.Rd1 =) 28...Qxd5 29.Nxd5 fxe6 30.Nf6+ Kg7 31.Nxe4
Rc4 32.N2g3 Nxg4 =

17...Bc8!³ 18.Rac1 Bb7

18...Qb7 19.Nec3 e6 20.Be2 Qd7 21.Rfe1 Ba6f

19.Rfd1 e5 20.g3



20...Qb8

20...Rd7! 21.Bg2 (21.Qe3 e4 22.Bg2 Ba6 23.Nbc3 Bc4 24.Bf1 Ne7 25.Bh3 Ra7 26.a4 Nc6 27.b5 Na5 28.Rb1 Rc7) 21...e4 22.Nf4 Bh6 23.Qe3 f5 24.Bf1 Nd8 25.Nc3 Ne6 26.Bb5 Rdf7 27.Nce2 Nc7 28.a4 Nxb5 29.axb5 Qa4

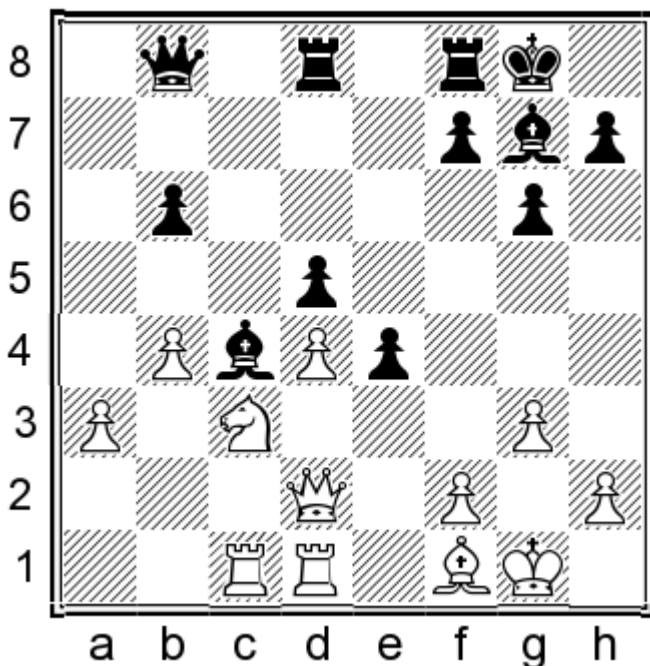
21.Bg2 Ba6

21...e4 22.Qf4 Ba6 23.Qxb8 Rxb8 24.Nec3 Ne7

22.Rxc6 Bxb5 23.Rcc1 e4!

23...Bxe2 24.Qxe2 exd4 25.Qb5 =

24.Nc3 Bc4 25.Bf1



25.Nxe4 Bb3 26.Nc3 Bxd1 27.Rxd1 Qb7 28.a4 Rd7 29.a5 bxa5 30.bxa5 Qb3
31.Rb1 Qc4³

25...Bxf1?!†

25...b5! 26.Bxc4 bxc4 27.Ne2 (27.Kh1 f5 28.Qf4 Qa7 29.a4 Qe7 30.b5 g5
31.Qd2 f4 32.Rf1 Kh8 33.Rcd1 (33.Rb1 e3 34.fxe3 fxe3 35.Rxf8+ Rxf8
36.Qd1 Rf2 37.Qg4 Qf7 38.Rg1 h5 39.Qd1 e2- +) 33...fxg3 34.fxg3 e3
35.Qe2 Rxf1+ 36.Qxf1 Qa3 37.Qe1 Re8 38.Ne2 Qxa4- +; 27.h4 Qa7 28.Ra1
f5 29.Qf4 h6 30.Ne2 Qe7μ) 27...f5 28.Nf4 Qd6 29.h4 h6 30.Nh3 g5 31.hxg5
f4! 32.gxf4 hxg5 33.Nxg5 Rxf4 34.Rc3 Rg4+ 35.Kh1 Rh4+ 36.Rh3 Qh6
37.Kg2 Rf8 38.Rxh4 Qxh4 39.Rh1 Qg4+ 40.Kf1 c3- +

26.Rxf1 Qa8 27.Nb5 Qa6

27...Qa4 28.Qe2 Rc8 29.h4 Bh6 30.Rxc8 Rxc8 31.Nd6 Rc6 32.Qb5 Qxb5
33.Nxb5 f5μ

28.Qe2 Rc8 29.Rfd1 Bh6μ 30.Rxc8 Rxc8 31.Kf1?†

31.Re1 Qa4 32.Nd6 Rc2 33.Qb5 Qxb5 34.Nxb5 f5μ

31...Bc1?

31...Qa4 32.Nd6 Rc6 33.Nxe4 dxe4 34.d5 Rc2- +

32.Kg2?

32.Nc3 Qxe2+ 33.Nxe2 Bxa3 34.Nf4 Rd8 35.Rb1 f5 36.Ke2 Rc8 37.Rb3 Rc2+ 38.Ke1 Ra2 39.Nxd5 Bb2 40.Nc3 Bxc3+ 41.Rxc3 Rb2 42.Rc7 Rxb4 43.Rd7 Rb3³

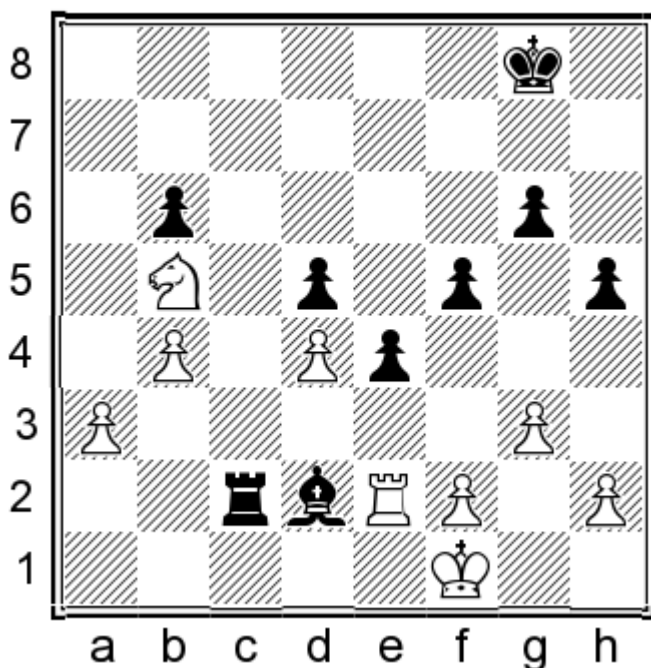
32...h5

32...Qa4 33.Nd6 Rc2 34.Qb5 Qxb5 35.Nxb5 Be3 36.Rf1 f5 37.Kg1 Bd2μ

33.Qf1 Bh6 34.Nd6 Qxf1+ 35.Kxf1 Rc2μ 36.Nb5 Bc1

36...Kf8 37.Ra1 Bd2 38.Rd1 Ke7 39.Nc7 Kd6 40.Nb5+ Kd7 41.h4 f5 42.Na7 g5 43.hxg5 Bxg5 44.Re1 h4 45.gxh4 Bxh4 46.Re2 Rc4 47.Rd2 Bg5 48.Rd1 f4- +

37.Re1 f5 38.Re2 Bd2



38...Rc4 39.Kg2 Kg7 40.Ra2 h4 41.Kh3 hxg3 42.hxg3 Kf6 43.a4 Rxb4 44.Rc2 Bg5 45.Rc6+ Kg7 46.Rxb6 Kh6 47.Rd6 Rb2 48.Rxd5 Rxf2 49.Nd6 Bf6 50.Ne8 Be7

39.h4?!

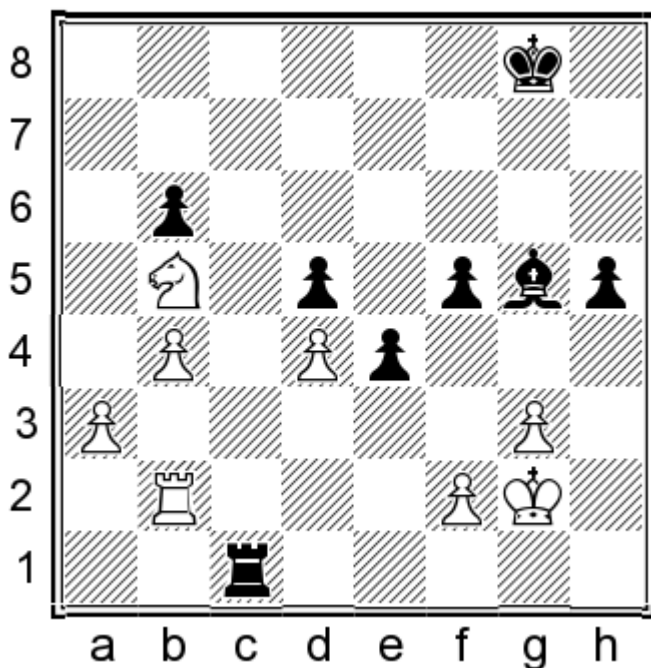
39.Kg2 g5 40.f4 gxf4 41.gxf4 Kf7 42.a4 e3 43.a5 bxa5 44.bxa5 Ra2 45.Nd6+ Ke6 46.Ne8 Rxa5 47.Ng7+ Kf6 48.Nxh5+ Kg6 49.Ng3 =

39...g5

39...f4 40.gxf4 Rc1+ 41.Kg2 Bxf4 42.a4 Rc4 43.a5 bxa5 44.bxa5 Ra4 45.Rb2

Rxa5 46.Nc3 Kf8 47.Rb6 Kf7 48.Rb7+ Ke6 49.Ne2 Bd2 50.Rb2 e3 51.Rb6+ Kf7 52.f4 Ra8 53.Rb7+ Kf6 54.Rb6+ Kg7 55.f5 gxf5 56.Rb7+ Kf6 57.Rb6+ Ke7 58.Nf4 Ra4 59.Ne2 Be1 60.Rh6 Bxh4 61.Rxh5 Be1 62.Rxf5 =

40.hxg5 Rc1+ 41.Kg2 Bxg5 42.Rb2



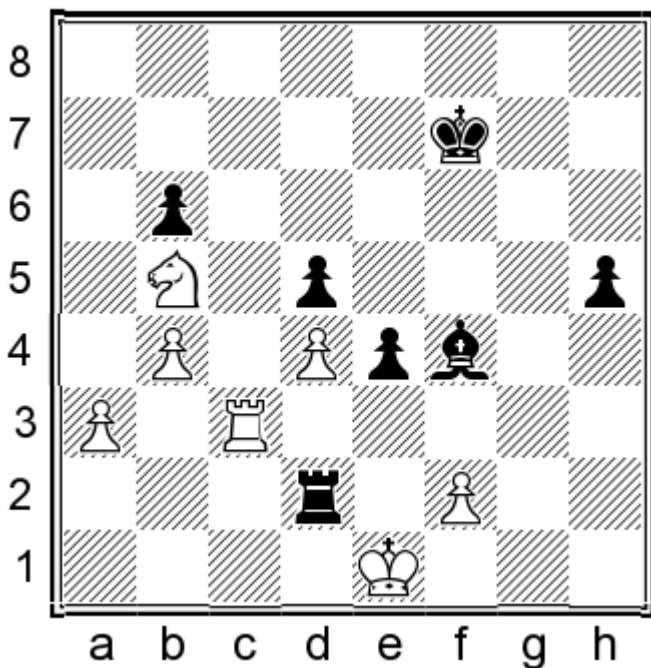
42...f4

42...h4 43.gxh4 Bxh4 44.a4 f4 45.Kh3 Rh1+ 46.Kg2 Rd1 =

43.gxf4 Bxf4 44.Rb3 = Rc2 45.Kf1 Kf7 46.Rc3?!

46.Rh3 Kg6 47.Nc3 e3 48.Ne2 Bg5 49.fxe3 h4 50.Kf2 Kf5 51.Kf3 b5 52.Rh1 Rc4 53.Rb1 Rc6 =

46...Rd2 47.Ke1?



47.a4 Ra2 48.Rh3 Kg6 49.Nc3 Ra1+ 50.Kg2 Bg5 51.Rh1 Ra3 52.Nxd5 Rxa4
53.Rb1 Kf5 54.Rb2 Ra6 55.Rc2 Ra3 56.Nxb6 h4 57.Nd5 Rd3 58.b5 Rxd4
59.Ne3+ Bxe3 60.fxe3 Rb4 61.Kh3 =

47...Ra2?

47...Rd3! 48.Kf1 h4 49.Rxd3 exd3 50.Nc3 Ke6 51.Kg2 Bc1 52.a4 Bd2 53.Nd1
Bxb4 54.Kf3 Be7 55.Kg4 d2 56.Ne3 Bf6- +

48.Kf1 Ke6?!

48...h4 49.Rh3 Bg5 50.Nc7 Bd8 51.Nxd5 Ke6 52.Nf4+ Kf5 53.Nd5 Rd2 = ;
48...Kg6 49.Rc6+ Kf5 50.Nc3 Ra1+ 51.Kg2 e3 52.Rc8 exf2 53.Rf8+ Kg4
54.Kxf2 Rxa3 55.Nxd5 Ra2+ 56.Kf1 Bh6 57.Rf2 =

49.Rh3 = Ra1+

49...Kf5 50.Rxh5+ Kg4 51.Rh8 Kf3 52.Rh3+ Kg4 53.Rh8 =

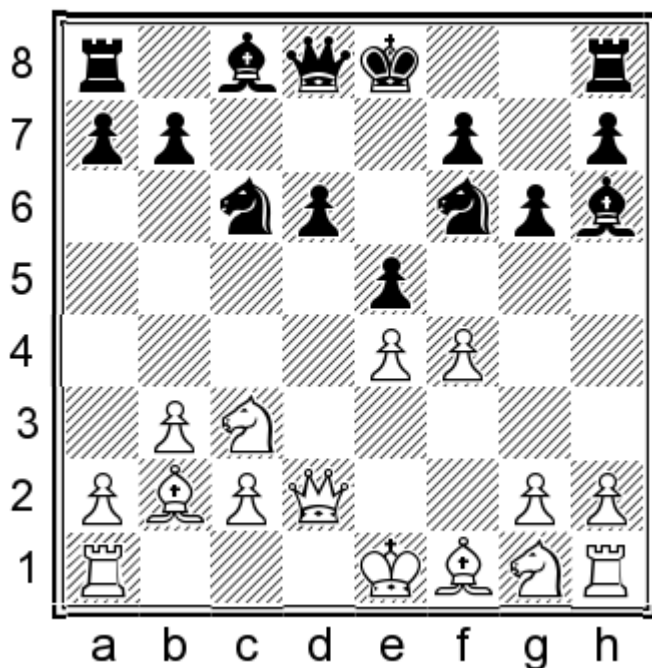
50.Kg2 Ra2 51.Kf1 1/2-1/2

30. B23

Grischuk, Alexander (2777) - Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2767)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/30, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qd2 g6 6.b3 Bh6 7.f4 Nf6 8.Bb2



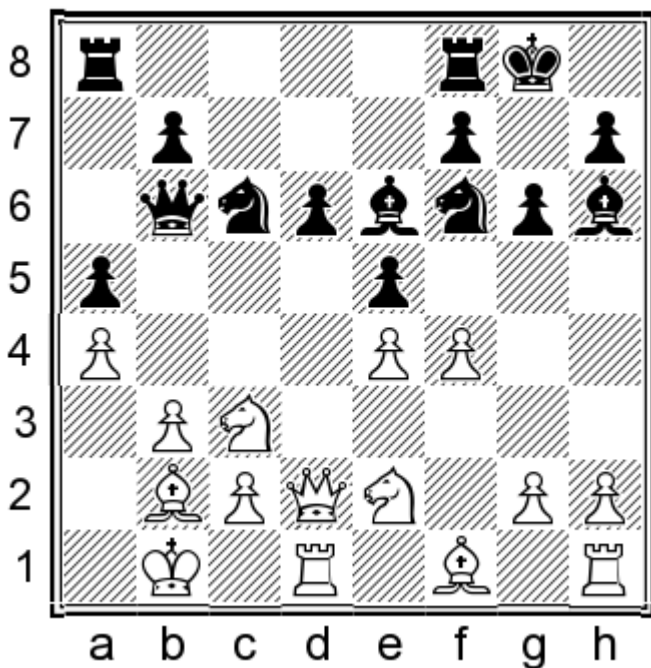
9.Nge2!?N

9.g3 - 136/(50)

9...O-O

9...Bg4 10.O-O-O! Bxe2 11.Qxe2 Bxf4+ 12.Kb1f

10.O-O-O Be6 11.Kb1 a5 12.a4 Qb6?!



12...Ng4 13.Rc1 Qb6∞

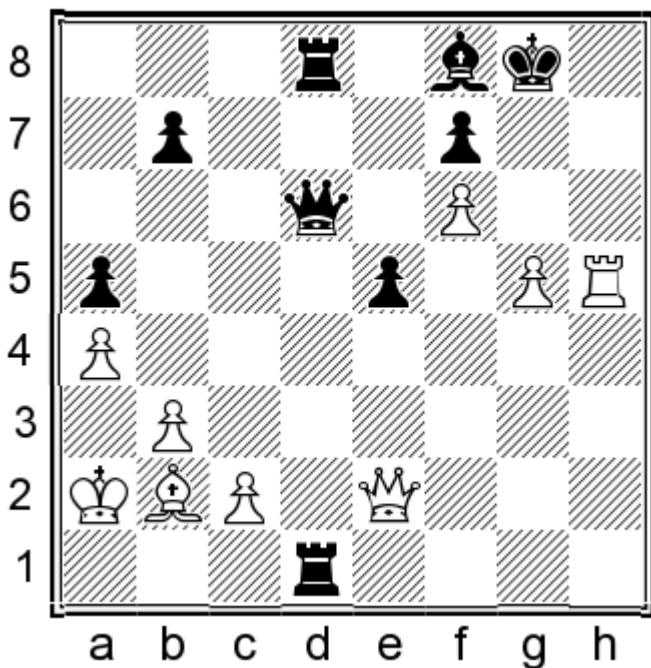
13.h4! Rac8 14.h5 Nxh5 15.g3! Nb4 16.Bh3 Bxh3 17.Rxh3 Bg7 18.g4 Nf6 19.g5 Nh5?!

19...Nxe4 20.Nxe4 Rxc2 21.Qe1 ±; 19...Ng4 20.Rf1 Nf2 21.Re3 ± Ng4 22.Rg3 f5!?

20.f5 Rfd8 21.f6 Bf8 22.Ng3 d5 23.exd5 Nxg3 24.Rxg3 h5 25.Qe2

25.gxh6 Qxf6 26.Qh2 Rxc3 (26...Qf5 27.Rd2 Qf1+ (27...Rxc3 28.Bxc3 Nxd5 29.Bxe5! +-) 28.Bc1 +- ... Rf2) 27.h7+ Kh8 28.Rxc3 +-

25...Rc5 26.Rh3 Nxd5 27.Nxd5 Rxd5 28.Rdh1 Qd6 29.Ka2 Rd1! 30.Rxh5! gxh5 31.Rxh5?!



31.Rh3! (... Qh5) 31...Ra1+™ 32.Bxa1 Qd1 33.Qxd1 Rxd1 34.Bxe5 ±

31...Rd4!! 32.Rh1

32.Qh2 Rxa4+! 33.bxa4 Qe6+ 34.Kb1 Rd1+ 35.Bc1 Qb6+ 36.Ka2 Qe6+
37.Kb2 Qb6+=; 32.Bxd4 Qa3+ 33.Kb1 Rxd4 34.Rh1 Rxa4! 35.bxa4 Qb4+
36.Kc1 Qa3+ 37.Kb1 =

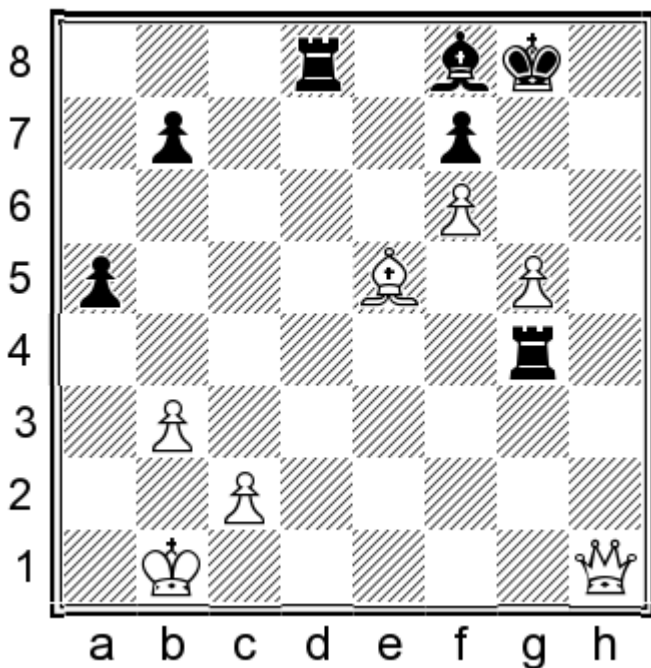
32...Rxa4+ 33.Kb1

33.bxa4?? Qd5+- +

33...Qd5

33...Rh4! 34.Rxh4 Qd1+ 35.Qxd1 Rxd1+ 36.Ka2 Rd2 37.Kb1 = (37.c4 Rg2)

34.Qh5 Qxh1+ 35.Qxh1 Rg4 36.Bxe5



36...Rxb6?

36...b6 37.Bc7 Rd2 38.Bxb6 Rgg2 39.Qc1 Bb4 ∞

37.Qxb7 Rd2

37...Re8 38.Bc3 Re2 39.Qc8 ±

38.Bc3 Re2 39.Qc8 Rg1+ 40.Kb2 Rgg2 41.Bxa5 Rxc2+ 42.Qxc2 Rxc2+ 43.Kxc2 +- Kh7 44.Kd3 Kg6 45.Bc3 Kf5 46.Kc4 Ke6 47.b4 Bd6 48.b5 1-0

B25-B49

31. * B25

Rublevsky, Sergei (2642) - Fedoseev, Vladimir (2687)

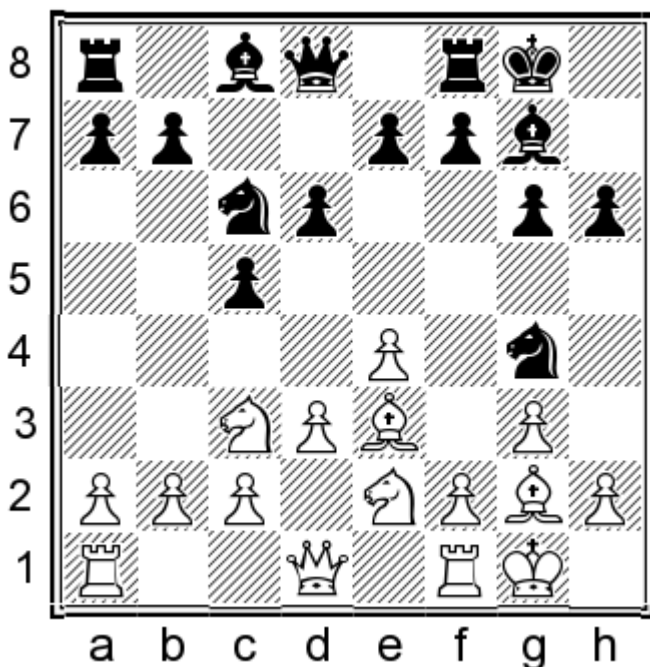
Russia 148/31, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.Nge2 Nf6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.O-O Nc6 7.d3 O-O
8.Bg5 h6

8...Rb8 - 137/45

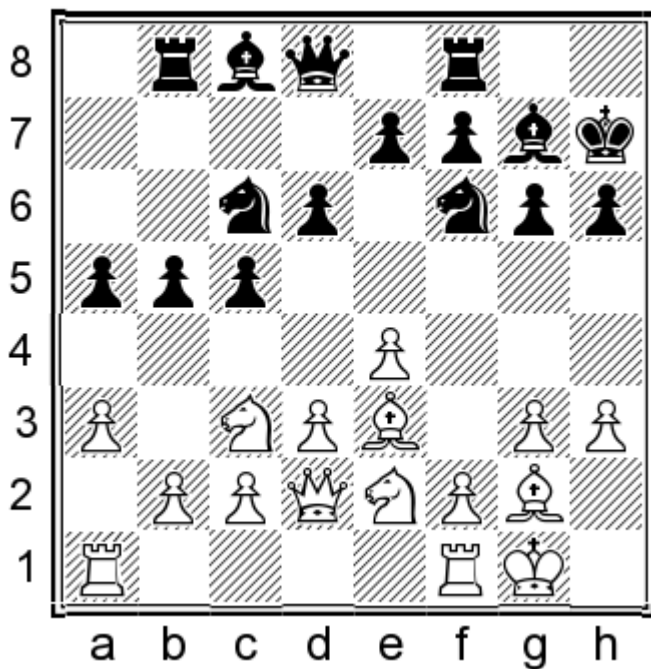
9.Be3 Rb8

9...Ng4



10.Bf4N (10.Bd2) 10...Nd4 11.h3 Nf6 (11...Ne5 12.Nxd4 cxd4 13.Ne2 Qb6 ∞) 12.Qd2 Bxh3 13.Bxh6 = Novikov,E (2276)-Kadam,O (2114)
chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/ (31) 2021

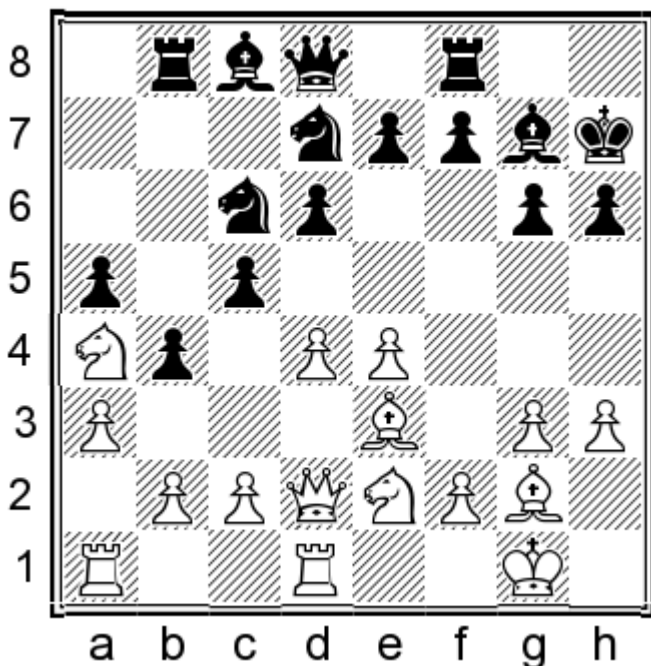
10.h3 b5 11.Qd2 Kh7 12.a3 a5



13.d4N

13.f4 b4 14.Nd1 e5 15.f5 ∞

13...Nd7 14.Rfd1 b4 15.Na4



15...Ba6!?

15...Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Bxd4 Bxd4 18.Qxd4 Qc7 19.c4 Nc5 20.Nxc5 dxc5 21.Qe3 Be6 22.axb4 Rxb4 23.b3 Rfb8 24.Rd3 =

16.dxc5 Bb5?

16...Nxc5 17.axb4 (17.Nxc5?! dxc5 18.axb4 cxb4f) 17...Nxa4 18.Rxa4 Bb5 19.Ra1 axb4 20.Nd4 =

17.axb4 axb4 18.cxd6 exd6 19.Nd4 Nxd4 20.Bxd4 Bxd4 21.Qxd4 Qc7 22.c3

22.Qxd6 Qxc2 23.Rd2 Qb3 24.Nc5 Nxc5 25.Qxc5 +-

22...b3 23.Ra3?

23.c4! Bxc4 (23...Qxc4 24.Nc3 ±) 24.Qxd6 Qxd6 25.Rxd6 Be6 26.Rad1 ±

23...Ne5

23...Ra8! 24.Rda1 Rfb8©

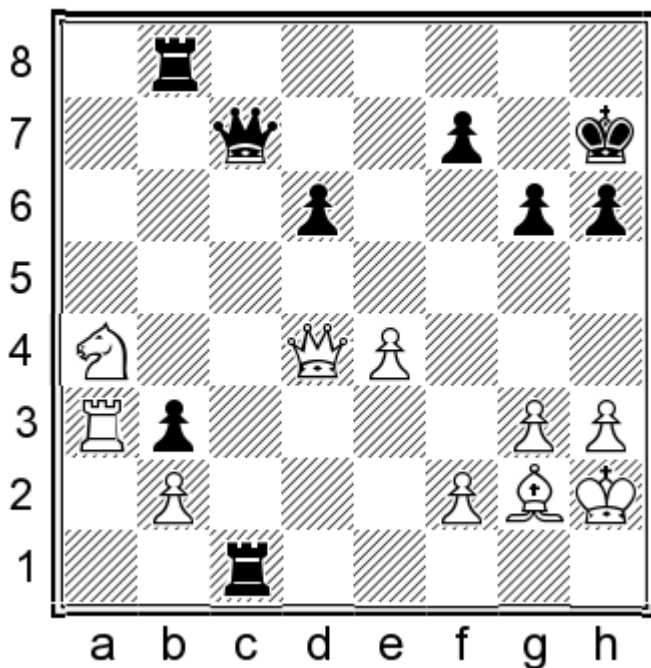
24.c4

24.Rxb3 Qc6 25.Ra1 Bxa4 26.Rxb8 Rxb8 27.Qxa4 Qxa4 28.Rxa4 Rxb2 29.f4 Nd3 30.Rd4 Rb1+ 31.Bf1 (31.Kh2 Ne1 32.Bh1 Rb3 33.c4 Nc2 34.Rxd6 Ne3 35.c5 Nf1+ 36.Kg2 Nxc3 =) 31...Nc5²

24...Nxc4 25.Rc1 Qd7

25...Rbc8 26.Rxb3 Bxa4 27.Rb4 +-

26.Rxc4 Bxc4 27.Qxc4 Rfc8 28.Qd4 Rc1+ 29.Kh2 Qc7

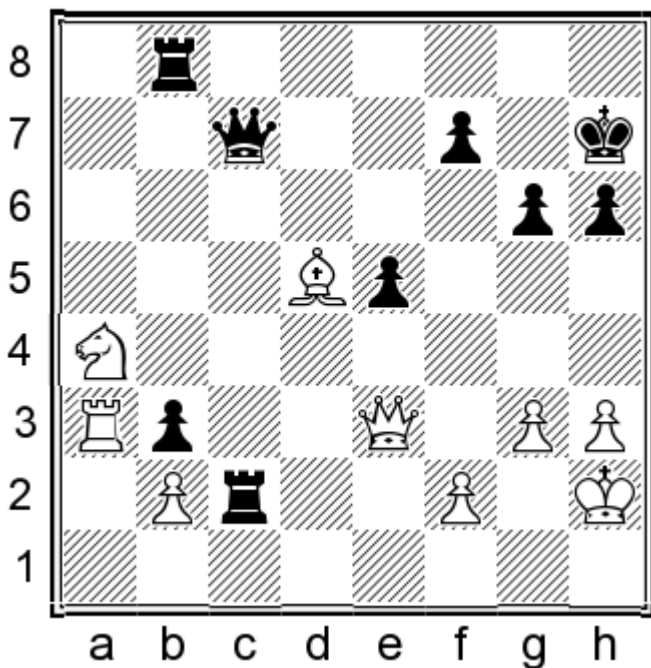


30.Qe3

30.Nc3!! Rxc3 31.bxc3 b2 32.Ra7! Rb7 (32...Qxa7 33.Qxa7 b1=Q 34.Qxf7+ Kh8 35.Qxg6 +-) 33.Rxb7 Qxb7 34.e5! +-

30...Rc2 31.Ra1?

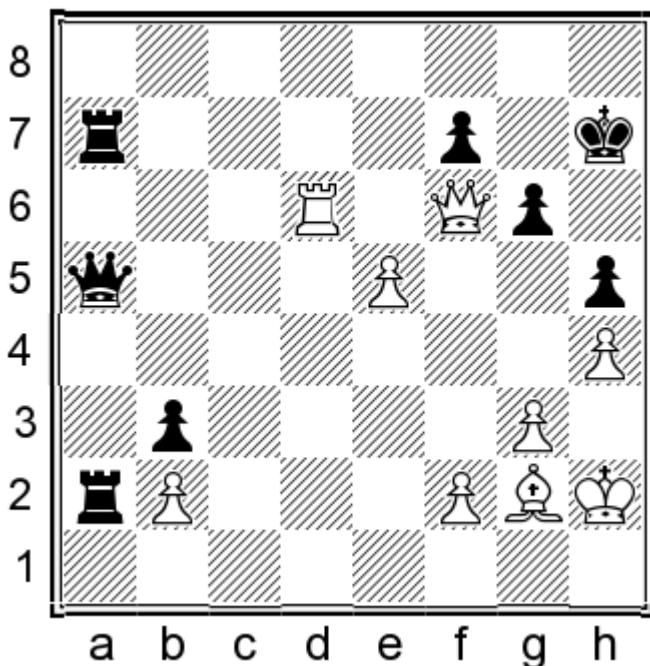
31.e5! dxe5 32.Bd5



32...Qa5!!,, 33.Qf3 (33.Bxb3 Rxb3 34.Rxb3 Qxa4 = ; 33.Rxb3 Rd8 34.Nc3 (34.Bxf7? Rxf2+! 35.Qxf2 Rd2) 34...Rxc3 35.Rxc3 Qxd5 =) 33...Qe1 34.Qxf7+ Kh8 35.Kg2 Rc1 =

31...Qa5 32.Qf4?

32.h4 Rc4 33.Qf4! Rb7 (33...Kg7 34.Qxd6 Rd8 35.Nc5! Rxd6 36.Rxa5 Rd2 37.Nxb3 Rxf2 38.Rc5 Rxe4 39.Kg1 Ree2 40.Bf1 Rxb2 =) 34.Qf6 Rxa4 (34...Ra7? 35.Rd1 Rxa4 36.Rxd6 h5 37.e5 Ra2



38.Rb6! + - (... Rb8) (38.Rd8 Qxd8 39.Qxd8 Rxb2 40.e6 fxe6 41.Be4 Rxf2+ 42.Kh3 Raa2 43.Qe7+ Kh8 44.Qe8+ Kg7 45.Qxg6+ Kf8 46.Qxh5 + -))
 35.Rxa4 Qxa4 36.e5 Rd7 37.Bd5 Qa7 38.e6 fxe6 39.Bxe6 Re7 40.h5 gxh5
 41.Bf5+ (41.Bxb3 Re2 42.Bc2+ Kg8 = (42...Rxc2 43.Qf5+ Kg7 44.Qxc2²))
 41...Kg8 42.Be6+ Kh7 =

32...Kg7 33.Qxd6

33.Ra3 Qe1 34.Qe3 Qxe3 35.fxe3 Ra8- + ; 33.e5 dxe5 34.Qe3 Rd8- + ;
 33.Qe3 Rc4 34.e5 Rxa4 35.Rxa4 Qxa4 36.exd6 Qd7μ

33...Rd8 34.Qa3 Rd3

34...Rdd2 35.Rf1 Qa7- +

**35.Qe7 Rdd2 36.Nc3 Qxa1 37.Qe5+ Kh7 38.Nd5 Rxd5 39.Qxd5 Rxf2
 40.Qxb3 Qf1 0-1**

32. B29

Gavrilescu, David (2476) - Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2770)
 chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/32, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.b3!?

4.Nc3 - 146/42

4...g6

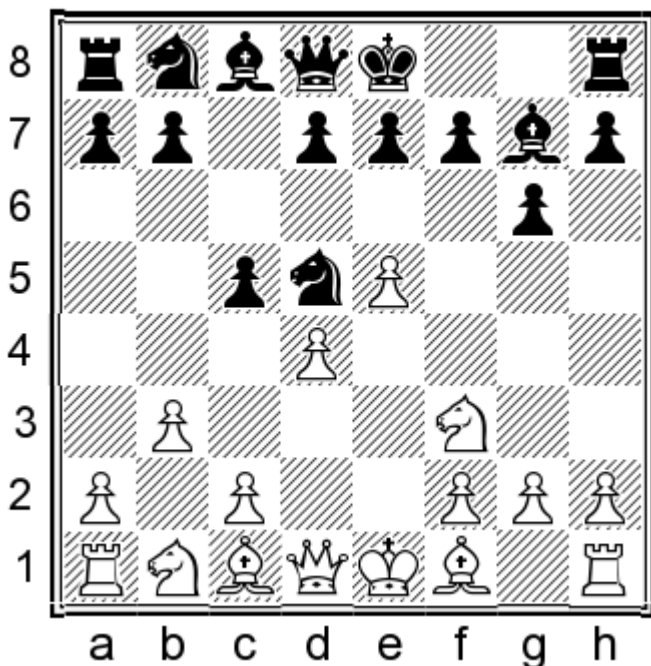
4...Nc6 5.Bb2 d6 (5...e6 6.c4 Nde7 7.g3 Nf5 8.Bg2 d5 9.cxd5 (9.exd6 Bxd6 10.O-O O-O 11.Nc3 Be7 ∞) 9...exd5 10.Nc3 d4 11.Ne4 Be7 12.O-O O-O 13.d3 Be6 14.Bc1 Bd5 15.Re1 h6 16.Bf4 Re8 17.Nfd2 Qd7 (17...g5 18.Qh5! Qd7 19.Bxg5! $\pm$) 18.Nc4 b5 19.Ncd6 Bxd6 20.exd6 Bxe4 21.Rxe4 Rxe4 22.Bxe4 Nxd6 23.Bg2 Rc8 24.Qh5 Nf5 ∞) 6.Bc4 (6.Bb5 Bd7 7.exd6 e6 8.Nc3 Nf6 9.d4 Bxd6 10.O-O cxd4 11.Nxd4 Qc7 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.h3 O-O 14.Qf3 Bh2+ 15.Kh1 Be5 16.Rad1 c5 17.Ndb5 Qb8 18.Na3 Rc8 19.Nc4 Bc6 20.Qd3 Bd4 21.Na5 Be8,,) 6...dxe5 (6...Nf4!? 7.O-O d5 8.Bb5 Qb6 9.a4 a6 10.a5 Qc7 11.Ba4 Bg4 ∞) 7.Nxe5 Nxe5 8.Bxe5 Nb6 (8...e6 9.Nc3 Nxc3 10.Bxc3²) 9.Bb5+ (9.Bd3!? Qd5 10.Qe2f) 9...Bd7 10.Qe2 e6 11.O-O Bxb5 12.Qxb5+ Qd7 13.Qe2 f6 14.Bb2 Nd5 15.Nc3 Nf4 16.Qe4 Bd6 ... 0-0-0 ∞

5.d4

5.Ng5 Bg7 6.Qf3 (6.Nxf7 Qc7 (6...Kxf7 7.Qf3+ Nf6 8.Bb2 Nc6 9.Bc4+ e6 10.exf6 Bxf6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Qxf6+ Kxf6 13.f4 d5 =) 7.Bb2 Rf8! (7...O-O 8.Nd6 Kh8 9.Nxc8 Nc6 ∞) 8.Nd6+ exd6 9.exd6 Qxd6 10.Bxg7 Rf7³) 6...O-O 7.Qxd5 e6 8.Qxc5 (8.Nxe6 fxe6 9.Qxc5 Nc6 10.d4 d6f) 8...Qxg5 9.Bb2 Nc6 10.h4 Qf5!? (10...Qf4 11.Qe3 =) 11.Bd3 Qf4 12.Be2 Nxe5 13.Nc3 b6,,; 5.h4!? Bg7 (5...h6 6.d4 d6 (6...cxd4 7.Qxd4 e6 8.c4 Nb4 9.Qd2 d5 10.exd6 Qxd6 11.Bb2 Qxd2+ 12.Nbxd2 Rg8 13.Ne4 Be7 14.Rd1 $\pm$) 7.Bb5+ (7.c4 Nb4 8.a3 N4c6 9.d5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 dxe5 11.h5 g5 12.Bb2 Bg7 ∞ 13.Qe2 e6! ³) 7...Nc6 (7...Bd7 8.a4 dxe5 9.Nxe5 Bxb5 10.Qf3 Nf6 11.axb5 Qxd4 12.Nc4 Qd5 (12...Qxa1 13.Qxb7 + -) 13.Qh3f Nbd7 14.Nc3 Δ Qf5 15.b6 Qxh3 16.Rxh3 a6 17.Nb5 $\pm$) 8.c4 Nc7 9.Bxc6+ bxc6 10.dxc5 Bg7 11.cxd6 exd6 12.Ba3 c5 13.Nc3 Bb7 14.Qe2 Ne6 15.O-O-O Qa5 16.Bb2²) 6.Bb2 Nc6 7.h5 O-O 8.Nc3 Nxc3 9.dxc3!? d5 10.Qd2 Nxe5 (10...Bg4 11.Nh2 Qd7 12.f3 Bf5 13.f4!? g5 14.h6 Bxh6 15.O-O-O $\odot$) 11.Nxe5 Bxe5 12.O-O-O Bg4 13.f3 Qc7 14.Kb1 Be6 15.hxg6 fxg6 16.Bd3 Rf7 ∞

5...cxd4

5...Bg7

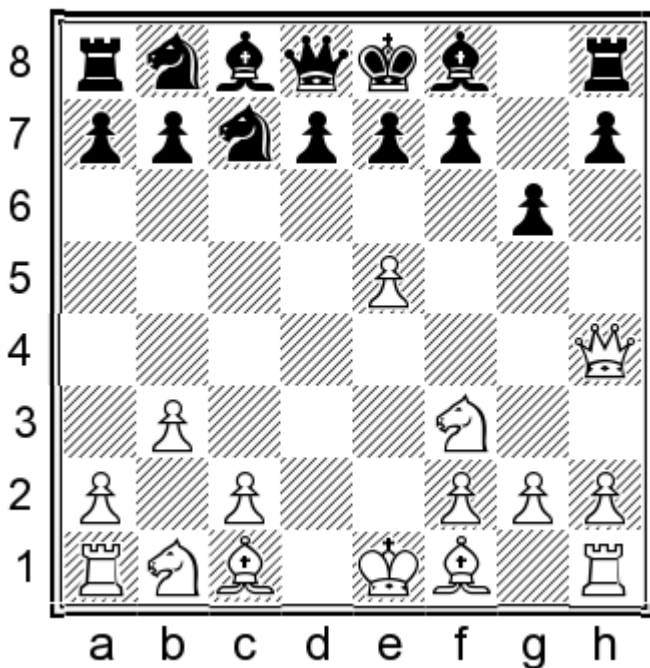


6.dxc5! (6.c4 Nb4 7.d5 d6 8.a3 N4a6 9.Bb2 Bg4 ∞) 6...Nc7 (6...Qa5+ 7.c3 Qxc5 8.b4 Qc6 9.b5 Nxc3 10.bxc6 Nxd1 11.c7 $\pm$) 7.Bb2 O-O 8.Nc3 Nc6 (8...b6 9.h4 bxc5 10.Qd2 h5 11.O-O-O $\pm$) 9.Qd2 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.f4 Bg7 12.O-O-O b6 13.h4 d5 14.h5 Bf5 15.hxg6 fxg6 16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.Qxd5+ Qxd5 18.Rxd5 Rac8 19.Ba3 Be6 20.Rd1 Rxf4 21.Re1!²

6.Qxd4 Nc7

6...Nb6 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.Qh4 (8.Qe3!? h5 9.Bb5 Bh6 10.Qc5²) 8...h5 (8...d5 9.exd6 Bg7 10.Bb2 Nd5 11.Nxd5 Bxb2 12.Nc7+ Kf8 13.Rd1 Bc3+ 14.Ke2 Rb8 15.Nd5 Bg7 16.dxe7+ Nxe7 17.Ne3 Qe8 18.Qf4²) 9.Bd3 Bg7 10.Bb2 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Bxe5 12.O-O-O Bf6 13.Qg3 $\copyright$

7.Qh4

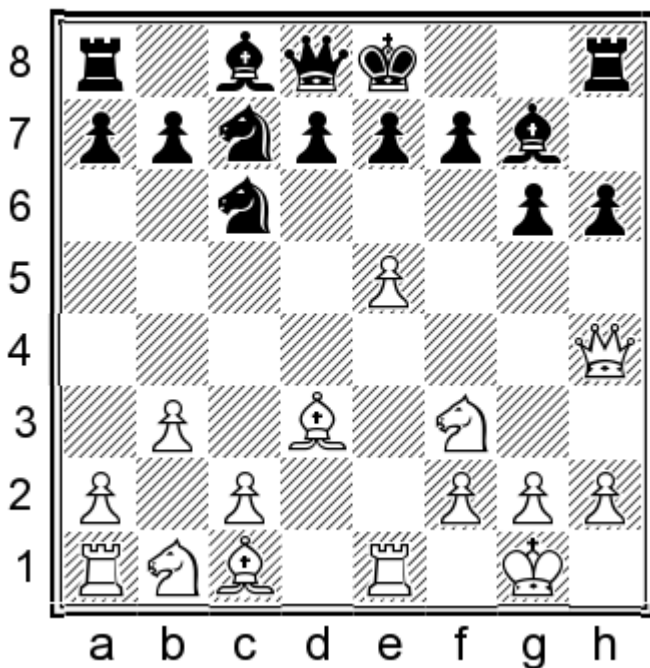


7.e6 f6 8.exd7+ Qxd7 9.Qb2 Nc6 10.Nc3 Bg7 ∞; 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.Qe3 Bg7
 9.Bb2 O-O (9...d5 10.exd6 Qxd6 11.Nb5 ±) 10.O-O-O d6 11.exd6 exd6
 12.Nb5 Bxb2+ 13.Kxb2 Nxb5 14.Bxb5 Qf6+ 15.Qc3²

7...Nc6N

7...h6 8.Bb2 Bg7 9.Nc3 Nc6 10.Qg3 d5 (10...b5 11.O-O-O b4 12.Ne4 Ne6
 13.Nh4 ±) 11.exd6 Qxd6 (11...exd6 12.O-O-O d5 13.Bc4 ±) 12.Qxd6 exd6
 13.O-O-O Bg4 14.Rxd6 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Be5 16.Nb5 Nxb5 17.Bxe5 Nxd6
 18.Bxh8 O-O-O 19.Bg7 Nf5 20.Bh3 ±

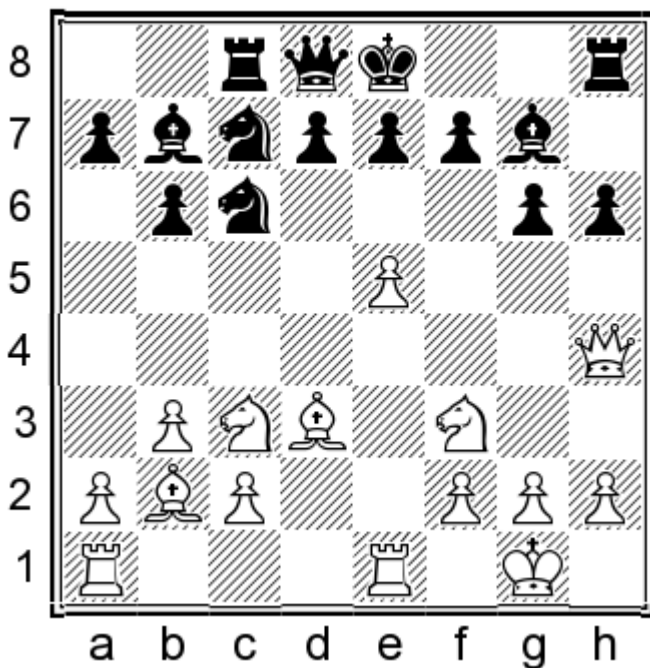
8.Bd3 h6 9.O-O Bg7 10.Re1



10...b6?!

10...d5 11.Nc3 Ne6 12.Bd2 (12.Bb2 g5! 13.Qa4 Nf4,,) 12...Nc5 13.Bb5 e6
 14.Qd4 Nd7 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Na4 Bf8 17.Bb4 Bxb4 18.Qxb4 Qe7 19.Qf4
 Ba6 20.c4²; 10...d6!? 11.Bb2 Ne6 12.Qg3 O-O 13.Na3 Nc5 14.Bc4 (14.Bb5
 d5! 15.Rad1 a6 16.Bf1 Bf5 17.c4 e6 18.Qf4 Be4,,) 14...d5 15.Rad1 e6
 (15...Be6 16.Qf4²) 16.Qf4 Qb6 17.Bf1 Rd8 18.c4 Ne4,,

11.Nc3 Bb7 12.Bb2 Rc8



13.Ne4!?

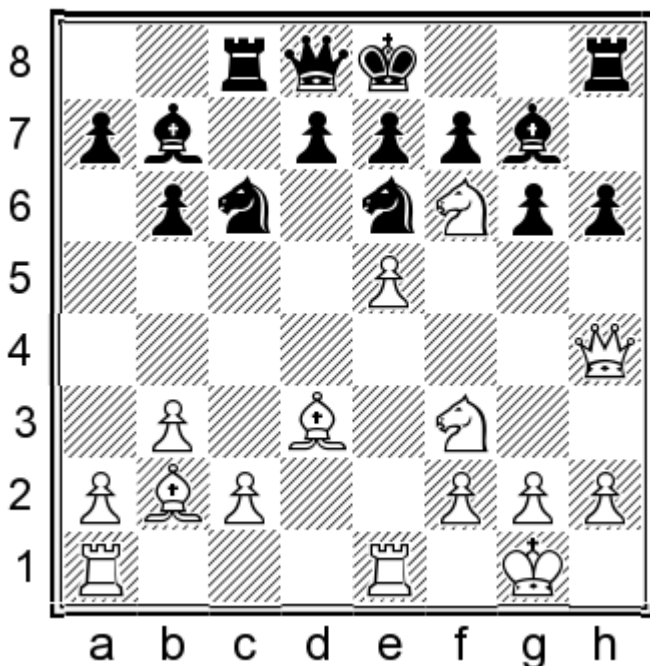
13.Rad1! ± ΔNe6 (13...O-O 14.Bc1 h5 15.g4! +-) 14.Nd5 Nb8 15.c4 b5
16.Ba3 +-

13...Ne6

13...O-O 14.Rad1 Ne6 15.c4 ... Bb1 ±

13...d5 14.Nf6+! Kf8 15.Ba3 b5 16.Rad1 a5 17.Qg4! ± Δb4 18.Nd7+ Kg8
19.Nc5 bxa3 20.Nxb7 Qe8 21.c4 Nb4 22.Bb1 Rb8 23.Nd6! +-

14.Nf6+?!

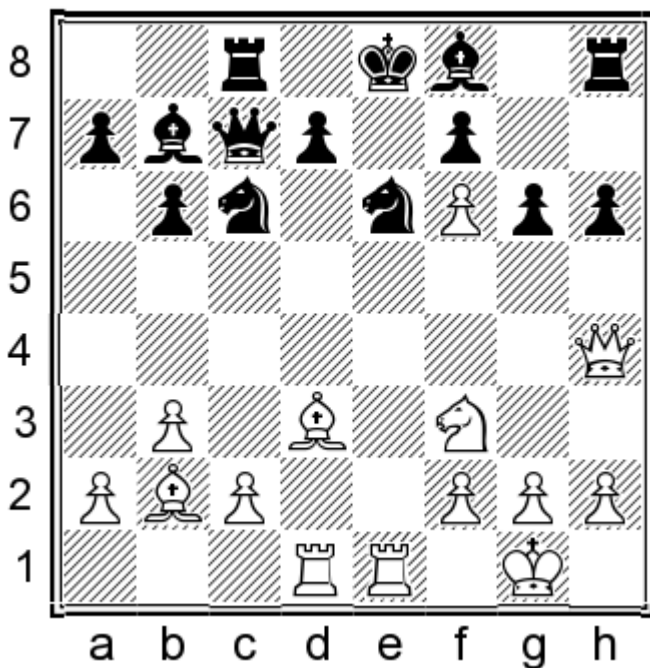


14.Rad1 O-O 15.Bc1 h5 16.Ng3 ± ΔQe8 17.Nxh5! gxh5 18.Bf5! f6 19.Rxd7! Qxd7 20.Qxh5 +-

14...exf6?

14...Kf8! 15.Nd5 d6 16.Nf4 (16.Rad1 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 dxe5 18.Bc4 b5 19.Ba3 g5 20.Nxe7 Qxe7 21.Bxe7+ Kxe7 22.Qh5 bxc4 23.Rd7+ Kxd7 24.Qxf7+ Kd6 25.Rd1+ Bd5 26.Qb7 Nd4! (26...Rc5? 27.bxc4 +-) 27.Qxg7 c3 28.Qg6+ Be6 ∞) 16...Nxf4 17.Qxf4 g5 18.Qg3 (18.Qg4 Nxe5 19.Bxe5 Bxe5 20.Nxe5 dxe5 21.Qf5 (21.Rxe5 e6 22.Rae1 Rg8) 21...e4 22.Bxe4 Rc5 23.Qf3 Bxe4 24.Qxe4 e6 25.Rad1 Qf6 = ... Kg7) 18...Nxe5 19.Nxe5 dxe5 20.Rad1 Qc7 21.Bc4 Bf6 22.Bxe5 Bxe5 23.Rxe5 f6! 24.Re3 Qxg3 25.hxg3 Rc7 26.Be6 Kg7 27.c4 Bc8 28.Bxc8 Rhxc8 29.g4 a6 30.Rd5 Rb7 ... b5=

15.exf6 Bf8 16.Rad1! Qc7



17.Bxg6! +- Rg8

17...fxg6 18.f7+ Kxf7 19.Qf6+ Ke8 20.Qxg6+ Kd8 21.Qxe6 +-

18.Bxf7+ Kxf7 19.Qh5+ Rg6 20.Rxe6!?

20.Nh4 Nf4 21.Qf5

20...Qf4

20...dxe6 21.Nh4 Ke8 22.Qxg6+ Qf7 23.Qxf7+ Kxf7 24.Rd7+ Ke8 25.Rxb7 Nd8 26.f7+ Nxf7 27.c4

21.Rxd7+ 1-0

33. B30

Vitiugov, Nikita (2715) - Dubov, Daniil (2710)

Russia 148/33, 2021

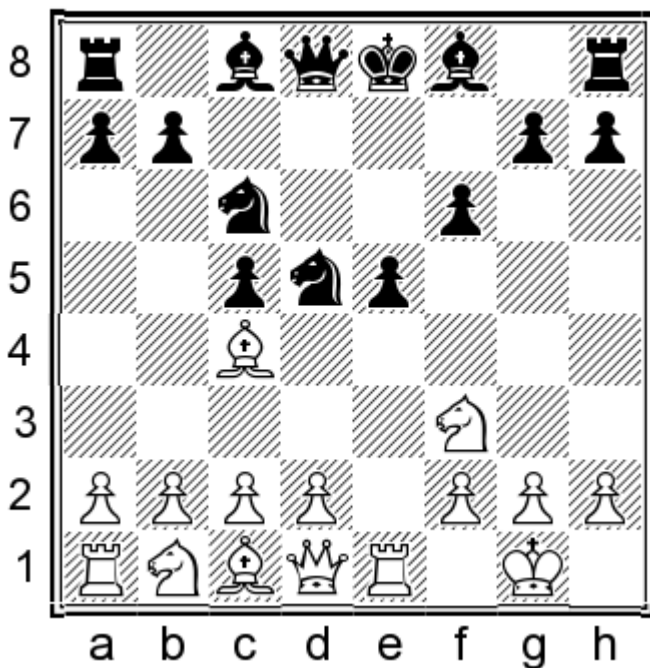
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e5 4.O-O Nge7 5.Bc4 d5!?

5...Ng6 - 96/88

6.exd5 Nxd5 7.Re1

7.Nxe5 Nxe5 8.Re1 Bd6!? 9.Bxd5 O-O©

7...f6



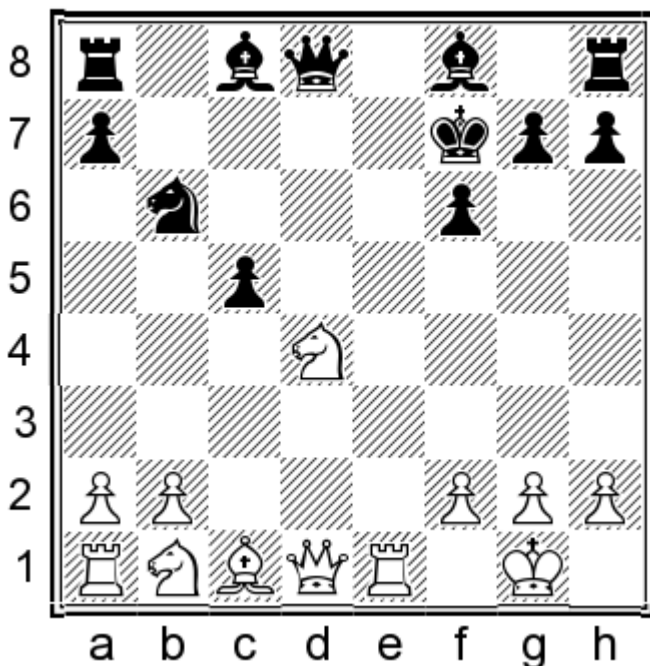
8.c3N

8.d4 Nb6 9.Bb5 cxd4 10.Nxd4 a6!? (10...Bd7 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd3 Be6 13.Qh5+ Bf7 14.Qf3 Qd7) 11.Qh5+ g6 12.Bxc6+ bxc6 13.Qf3 Bg7 14.Nxc6 Qc7 15.Nb4 Bb7 16.Qb3 a5 17.Qe6+ Qe7 18.Qxb6 Qxb4 19.Qe6+ Qe7 20.Qxe7+ Kxe7©

8...Nb6 9.Bb5 Kf7 10.d4

10.a4 a6 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.d4 exd4 13.a5 Nd5 14.cxd4 c4 15.Qe2 Nb4 16.Qxc4+ Qd5 17.Qe2 Bf5 18.Nc3 Qd7©

10...cxd4 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.cxd4 exd4 13.Nxd4 c5



14.Nb5

14.Qh5+ g6 15.Nc6 Qd5 ∞; 14.Qb3+ Qd5 15.Nc3 Qxb3 16.Nxb3 Bf5 ∞

14...Qxd1 15.Rxd1 a6 ∞ 16.N5c3 Bf5 17.Bf4 g5

17...Rc8 18.Nd2 g5 19.Be3 Be7 20.Rac1 Rhd8 21.b3 h5 22.f3 Be6 23.Nde4 Rxd1+ 24.Rxd1 Rc6 ∞

18.Bc7 Nc4 19.b3 Nb2 20.Rd2 Nd3

20...Re8 21.Na3 c4 22.Bd6 Bxd6 (22...Rd8 23.Rxb2 Rxd6 24.Nxc4 Rd3 25.Na4 Be7©) 23.Rxd6 cxb3 24.Rxa6 bxa2 25.Nab5 Kg6 26.R6xa2 Nd3 =

21.Na3 Rc8 22.Ba5 Ne5 23.Nc4 Nxc4 24.bxc4 Be6 25.Nd5 Bd6 26.Bc3 Bxd5 27.Rxd5 Rhd8 28.Rad1

28.Rad1 Be7 29.Rxd8 Rxd8 30.Rxd8 Bxd8 31.g4²

1/2-1/2

34. * B30

Grandelius, Nils (2663) - Caruana, Fabiano (2823)
Wijk aan Zee 148/34, 2021

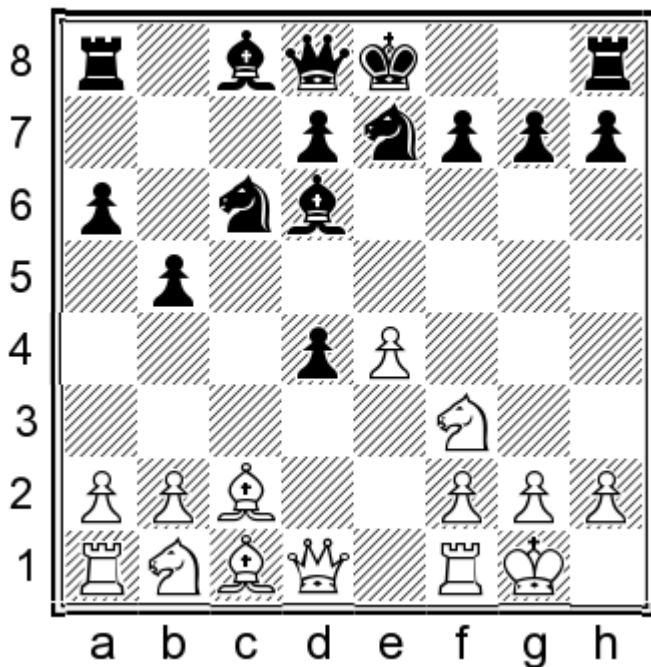
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e5 4.O-O Bd6

4...Nge7 - 148/33

5.c3 a6 6.Ba4

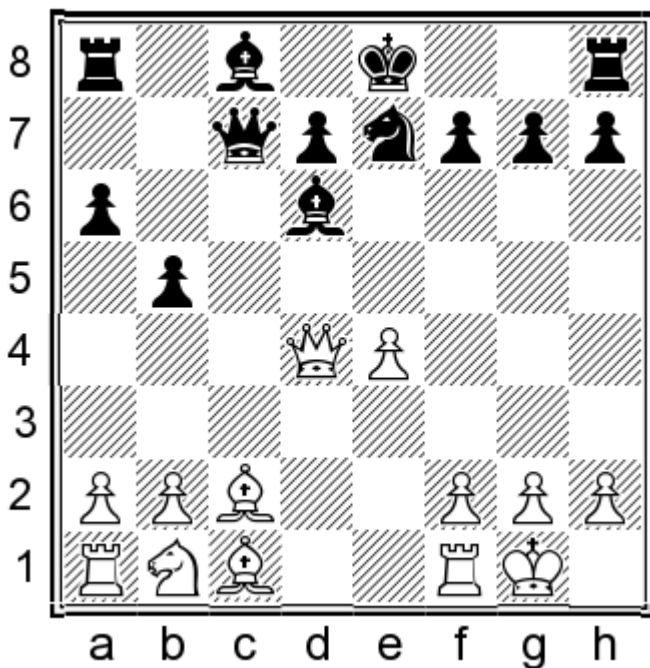
6.Bc4 Nf6! 7.d4 cxd4 8.cxd4 exd4 9.e5 (9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Qc7 11.h3 b5
12.Bb3 Bb7 - 6.Ba4) 9...Bxe5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.Re1 O-O! 12.Rxe5 Qc7
13.Qxd4 d5 14.Nc3 Qxc4 15.Rxd5 Qxd4 16.Rxd4 = Perunovic,Milos

6...b5 7.Bc2 Nge7 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4 exd4

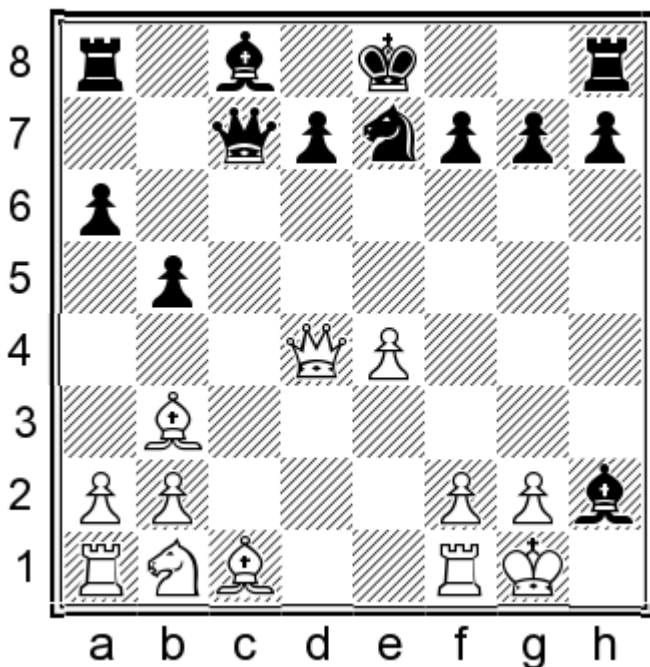


10.Nbd2N

10.Nxd4 - 148/ (34) 10...Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Qc7



12.Bb3?!N (12.Qd3 Bxh2+ 13.Kh1 Bf4 14.Nc3 Bxc1 15.Raxc1 Bb7 ∞ ; 12.h3)
 12...Bxh2+



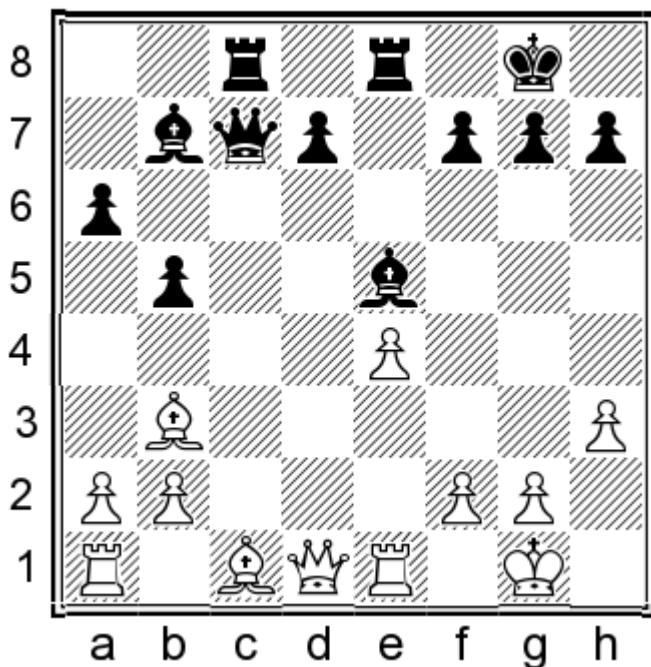
13.Kh1 Tsydypov,Z (2565) -Dardha,D (2503) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(34)

2021 (13.Kh1 Be5 14.Qd3 d6³)

10...Bb7 11.Nb3 Qc7 12.h3 Rc8 13.Nbxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4

14.Nxd4 Bc5 15.Bb1 O-O ∞ ... d5

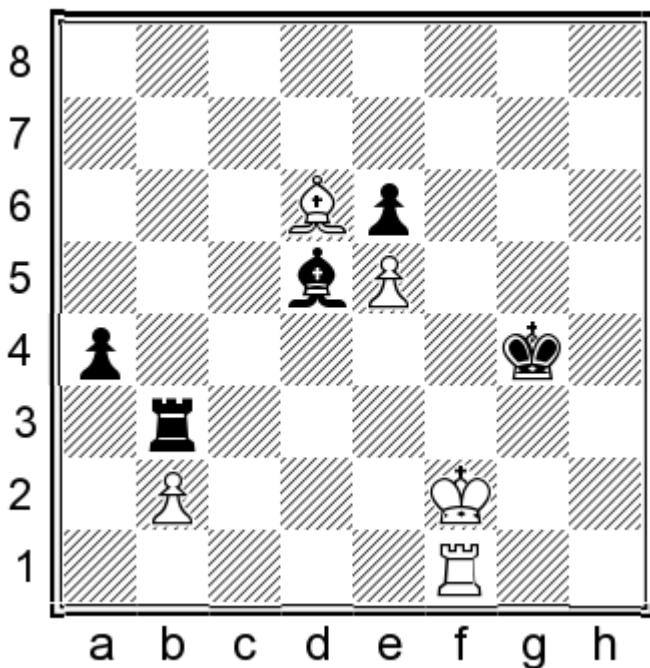
14...O-O 15.Bb3 Nc6 16.Qd1 Ne5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.Re1 Rfe8



19.f4! Bxf4 20.Bxf7+ Kxf7 21.Bxf4 Qb6+ 22.Kh2 Qe6 = 23.e5 Kg8 24.Bg3 Rc4 25.Rf1 a5 26.Rf2 a4 27.a3 Rec8 28.Qd6 h5

28...Qxd6 29.exd6 Re8 30.Raf1 b4 31.axb4 Rxb4 32.Be5 Re4 33.Bc3 Re2³

29.Raf1 h4 30.Qxe6+ dxe6 31.Bf4 b4 32.axb4 Rxb4 33.Bg5 Bd5 34.Be7 Rbc4 35.Rf8+ Rxf8 36.Rxf8+ Kh7 37.Rf2 Kg6 38.Bd8 Re4 39.Bc7 Kh5 40.Bd6 g5 41.Bc7 g4 42.hxg4+ Kxg4 43.Bd6 Bb3 44.Kg1 Bc4 45.Kh1 h3 46.Kh2 hxg2 47.Kxg2 Bd5 48.Kf1 Re3 49.Kg1 Re1+ 50.Rf1 Re2 51.Rf2 Re3 52.Rf1 Rg3+ 53.Kf2 Rb3



54.Ra1!

54.Ba3 Kf4 55.Re1 Rh3³ ♘

**54...Bc6 55.Ke2 Rxb2+ 56.Ke3 Bb5 57.Kd4 Kf4 58.Ra3 Be8 59.Kc3 Rb1
60.Kd4 Bd7 61.Rc3 Rb5 62.Rc7 Rd5+ 1/2-1/2**

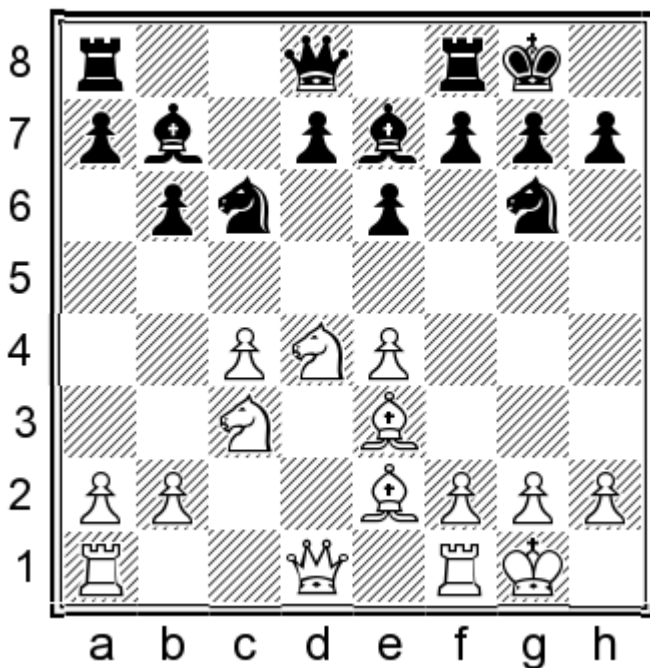
35. * B30**

Matlakov, Maxim (2688) - Truskavetsky, Alexandr (2387)

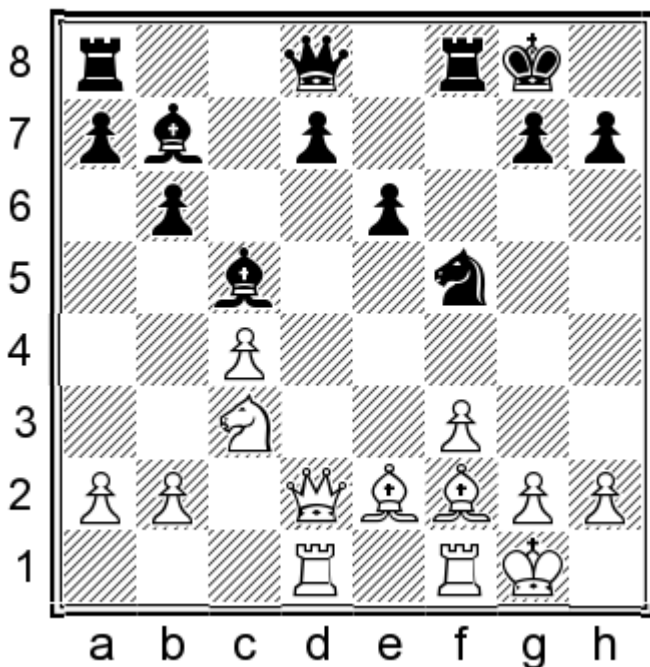
Russia 148/35, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6 4.O-O Nge7 5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Qb6

6...Ng6 7.Be3 (7.Be2 Be7 8.c4 O-O 9.Nc3 b6 10.Be3 Bb7

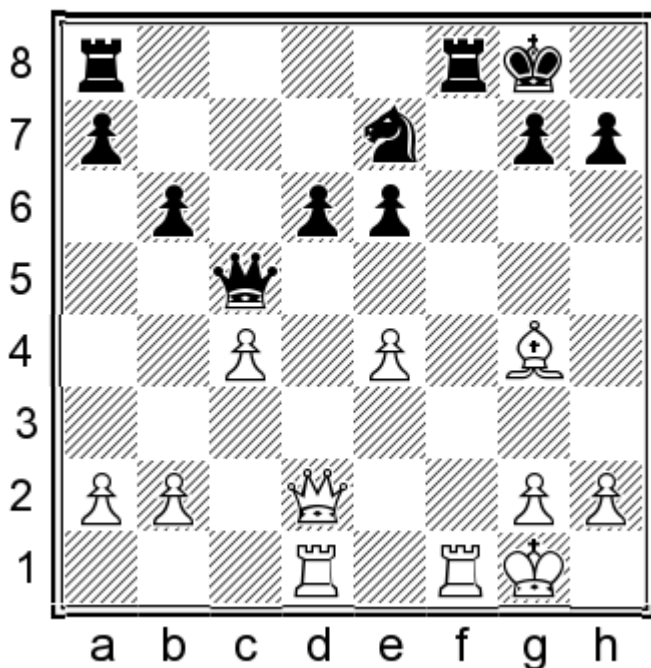


11.f4N (11.Qd2 - 148/(35) 11...Nxd4 12.Bxd4 f5 13.exf5 Nh4 14.f3 Nxf5
15.Bf2 Bc5 16.Rad1

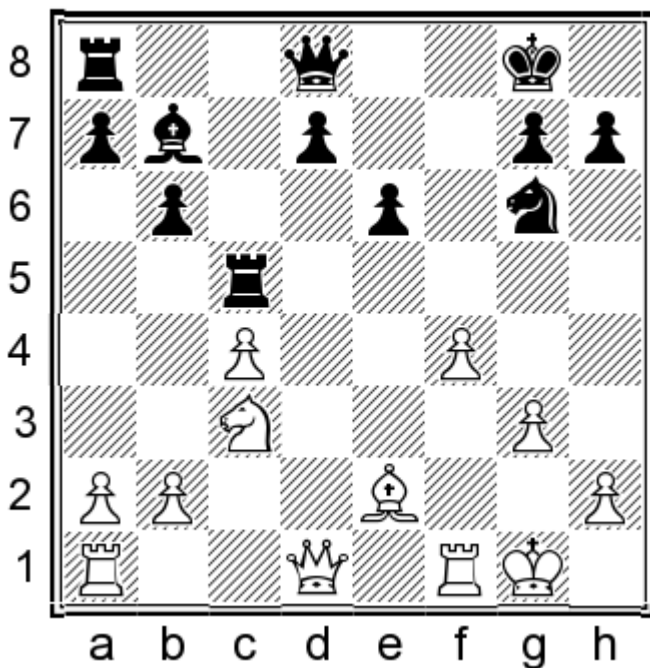


16...d6?!N (16...Bc6 17.Bd3 Qe7 18.Rfe1 Nh4!? ∞) 17.Ne4 Bxe4 18.fxe4

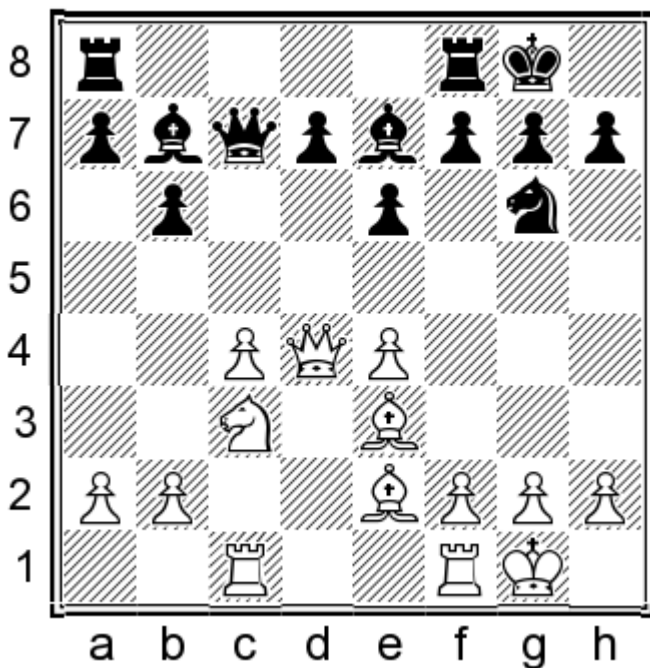
Ne7 19.Bg4 Qc8 20.Bxc5 Qxc5+



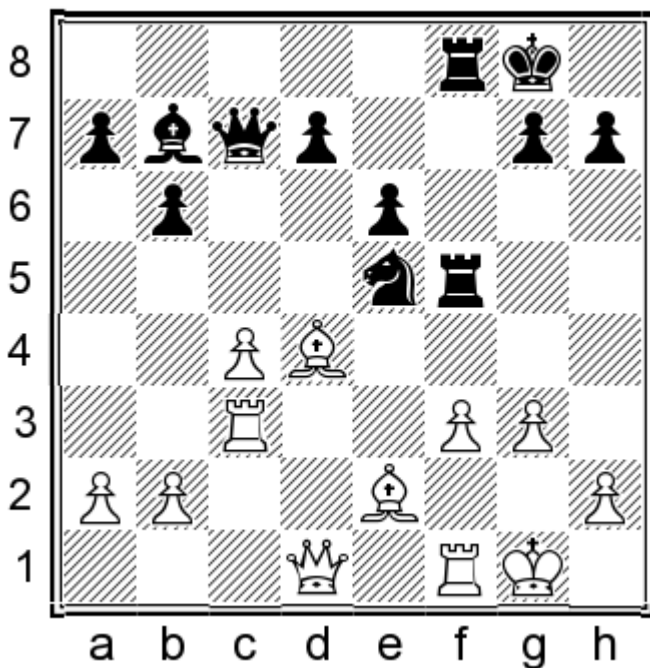
21.Kh1? (21.Qd4 ±) 21...Qxc4 22.Rfe1© Kobalia,M (2587)-
 Pragganandhaa,R (2608) chess. com (Int.-blitz) 148/(35) 2021) 11...Nxd4
 12.Bxd4 f5 13.exf5 Rxf5 14.g3 Bc5?! (14...Qc7 15.Nb5 Qc8 16.Qd3 a6
 17.Nc3 b5 ∞) 15.Bxc5 Rxc5



16.Qd4 (16.Qd6 Bc6 17.Rad1f) 16...e5 17.fxe5 Rxe5 18.Bf3 Bxf3 19.Rxf3²
 Kobalia,M (2587)-Vedmediuc,S (2464) lichess.org (Int.-blitz) 148/(35) 2021)
 7...Qc7 (7...Be7 - 134/44) 8.Be2 Be7 9.c4 O-O 10.Nc3 b6 11.Rc1 Nxd4
 12.Qxd4 Bb7



13.g3?!N (13.Rfd1!? ∞ ; 13.Nb5) 13...Bf6 (13...Qc6!? 14.Qd2 (14.f4 e5 15.fxe5 Bc5 16.Qd2 Nxe5 17.Nd5 Bxe3+ 18.Qxe3 Qc5³) 14...f5 ∞) 14.Qd3 Bxc3 15.Rxc3 f5 16.exf5 Rxf5 17.f3 Raf8 18.Qd1 Ne5 19.Bd4

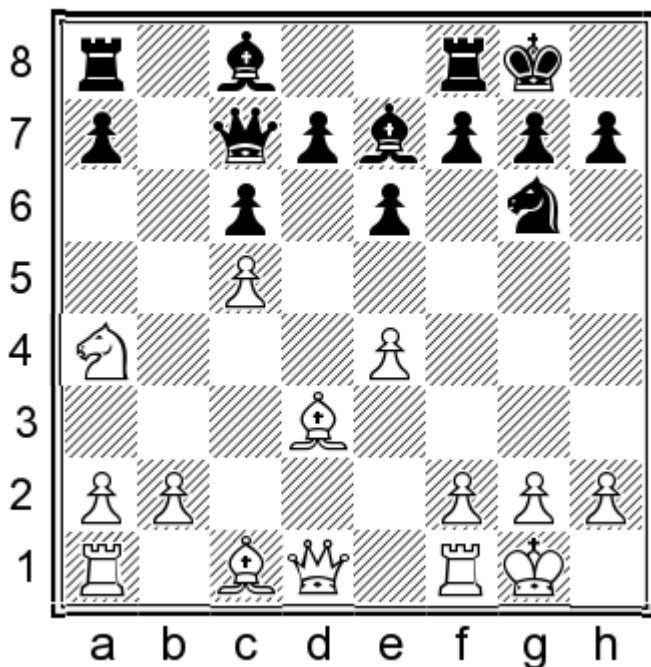


19...g5 ∞ So,W (2770)-Dubov,D (2710) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(35)
2021 (19...h5!?)

7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 Ng6 9.c4 Be7 10.Nc3 O-O 11.Na4

11.Rb1!? ... b4

11...Qc7 12.c5



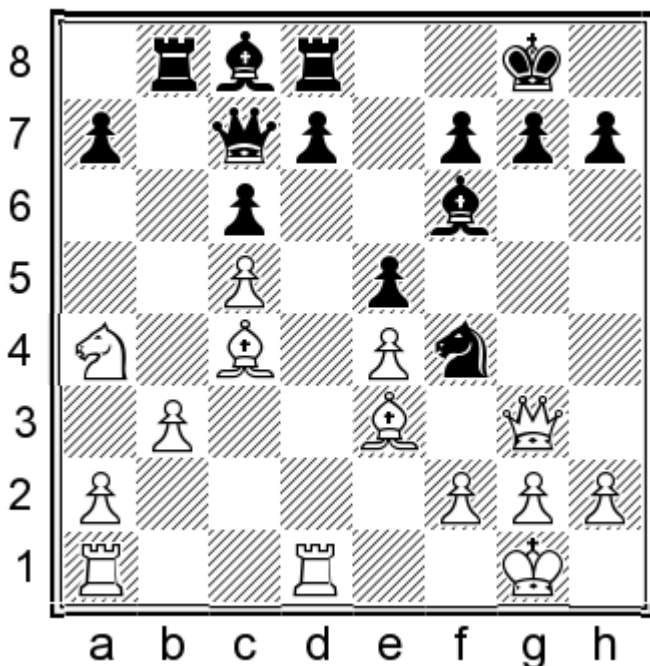
12...e5?N

12...d5 13.cxd6 Bxd6 14.g3 c5 15.Be3 (15.Qc2 ∞) 15...c4 16.Rc1 Ba6 17.Be2
Rfd8 18.Qc2 Rac8 19.f4 Ne7 ∞

13.Be3 Nf4 14.Bc4 ± Rd8 15.Qf3 Ne6 16.Rfd1 Rb8

16...Ba6 17.Bxa6 Qa5 18.Bc4 Qxa4 19.Rac1

17.b3 Bf6 18.Qg3 Nf4



19.Rd6! Be7 20.Rad1

20.Bxf4 exf4 21.Qxf4 Rf8 22.Qd2 Bxd6 23.cxd6 Qd8 24.e5 +-

**20...Bxd6 21.cxd6 Qb7 22.Qg5 Re8 23.Qe7! Rf8 24.Qxe5 Ne6 25.f4 Kh8
26.f5 f6 27.fxe6!**

27.Qg3 Ng5 28.e5 Ne4 29.Qh4 c5 30.Bd5 +-

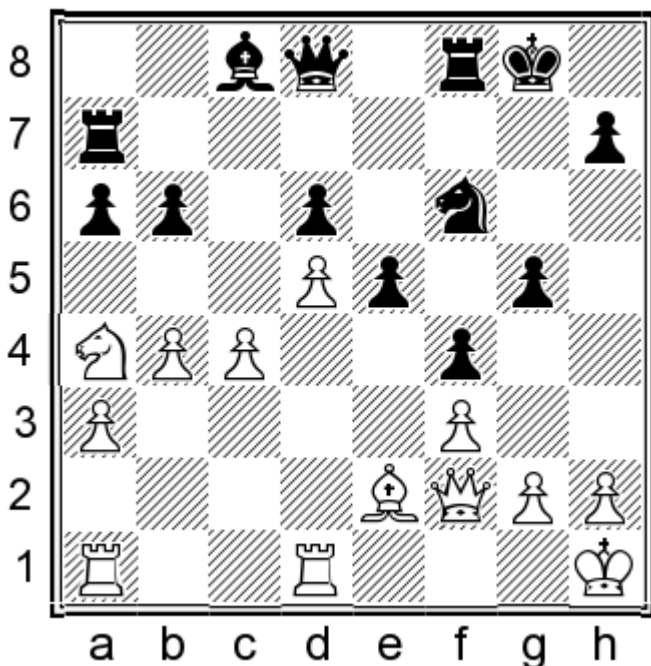
27...fxe5 28.e7 Re8 29.Rf1 1-0

36. B33

Cheparinov, Ivan (2670) - Moiseenko, Alexander (2635)
chess24.com (Int.-m/15-blitz) 148/36, 2020

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 Nxd5
8.exd5 Nb8 9.c4 Be7**

9...a6 10.Nc3 Be7 11.Be2 (11.Be3!? O-O 12.Qd2 f5 13.f3) 11...O-O 12.O-O²;
9...Nd7 10.Be2 Be7 11.O-O O-O 12.Kh1 f5 13.f3 a6 14.Nc3 Bg5 15.b4 b6
(15...a5 16.a3²) 16.a3 Ra7 17.Bxg5 Qxg5 18.Qc1 Qd8 19.Qe3 f4 20.Qf2 Nf6
21.a4!f (21.Rfd1? g5! 22.Na4



22...Rg7! 23.Qxb6 (23.Nxb6? Bf5 24.Bd3 Bxd3 25.Rxd3 g4→) 23...Qe8
24.Qxd6! Qxa4 25.Qxe5 Qc2∞ (25...g4!?!); 21.Na4 Rb7 22.c5; 21.c5!?)

10.c5 O-O

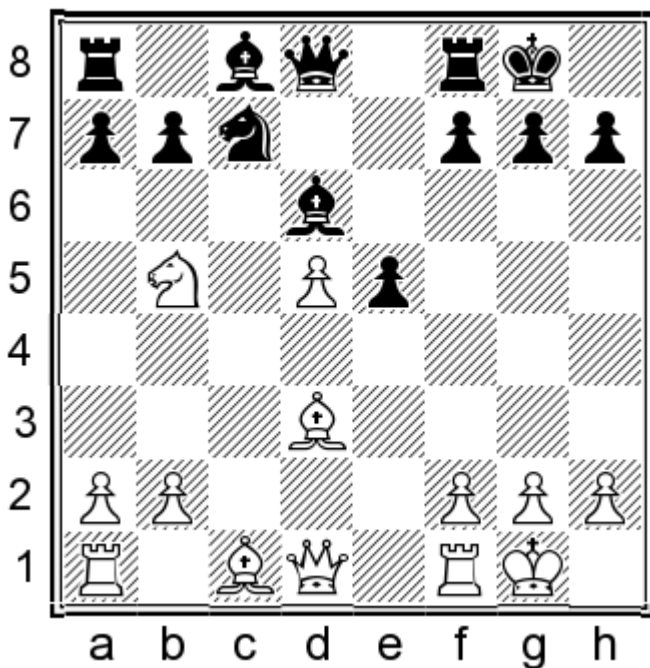
10...a6 11.cxd6 Bxd6 12.Nxd6+ Qxd6 13.Be3 (13.Be2 O-O 14.O-O Nd7
15.Qb3! Nc5 16.Qa3 Qxd5 17.Rd1 Qc6 18.Be3 Ne6 19.Rac1f) 13...O-O
14.Rc1 Nd7 (14...b6?! 15.Qb3! Bb7 16.Qxb6! (16.Be5 bxc5 17.Qxb7 Nd7
18.Qc6 Qb8! 19.Qxd7 Qxb2 =) 16...Qxb6 (16...Qxd5 17.Rd1 Qc6 18.Rd6±
17.Bxb6±) 15.Bd3 Nf6!? 16.Be5 Qxd5 17.Bxh7+ Kxh7 18.Qxd5 Nxd5
19.Bxf8 Be6 20.Bd6 Nf4©

11.Bd3

11.Be4 Bd7! 12.cxd6 (12.Nxd6?? Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Qxc5- +) 12...Bxb5 13.dxe7
(13.Bxb5 Bxd6) 13...Qxe7; 11.Be2 Na6 12.cxd6 Bxd6 13.O-O Nc7 14.Nxc7
(14.Bg5 Qxg5 (14...f6!?) 15.Nxd6 Bh3 16.Bf3 Qg6 =; 14.Qb3 - 70/(145))
14...Qxc7 15.Be3 f5∞

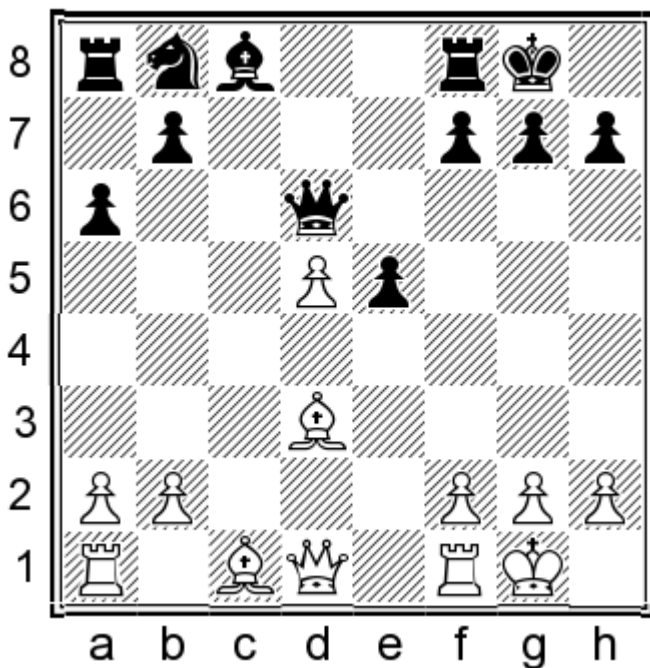
11...a6

11...Na6 12.cxd6 Bxd6 13.O-O Nc7



14.Bg5! Qxg5 (14...Qd7? 15.Qh5; 14...f6?? 15.Qh5 +-) 15.Nxd6 Ne8 16.Nc4 b5 17.Na5 Nd6 18.Qc1 ±

12.Nxd6 Bxd6 13.cxd6 Qxd6 14.O-O



14...Nd7N

14...f5?! 15.b3! Kh8 16.Bb2 (16.a4 Qxd5 17.Ba3 Re8 18.Bc4f) 16...Qxd5
17.Bc4 Qc5 18.Bd5f

15.Qc2

15.a4! Nf6 (15...Nb6 16.Qh5 h6 17.Rd1f) 16.Bc4 Rd8 17.Bg5²

15...Nf6 16.Rd1 Bg4 17.f3 Rac8 18.Qb3 Bh5∞ 19.Bg5 b5

19...e4! 20.Bxf6 exd3 21.Bc3 Bg6 22.Qxb7 Rc7 23.Qb3 Rfc8©

20.Bf5 Rc5 21.Qa3 Nxd5?

21...Rd8∞

22.Be3 b4 23.Qxb4

23.Qb3 f6 24.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 25.Kh1 + -

23...Nxb4

23...Qh6 24.Qxc5 Qxe3+ 25.Qxe3 Nxe3 26.Rd7 Nxf5 27.g4 + -

24.Rxd6 Rd5 25.Rxd5

25.Rb6 a5 26.Be4 Rd7 27.Bc5 Rfd8 28.Bxb4 axb4 29.Rxb4 + -

25...Nxd5 26.Bc5 Rb8 27.Rd1 Nf4 28.Ba7 Rf8 29.Bc5 Rb8 30.Ba7 Rf8

31.b4 Bg6 32.Bxg6 hxg6 33.Rd6 Rc8 34.Bc5?

34.g3 Rc1+ 35.Kf2 Rc2+ 36.Ke1 Ne6 37.Rxa6 + -

34...Ne6 35.Rd5 a5

35...Nxc5 36.bxc5 f6 =

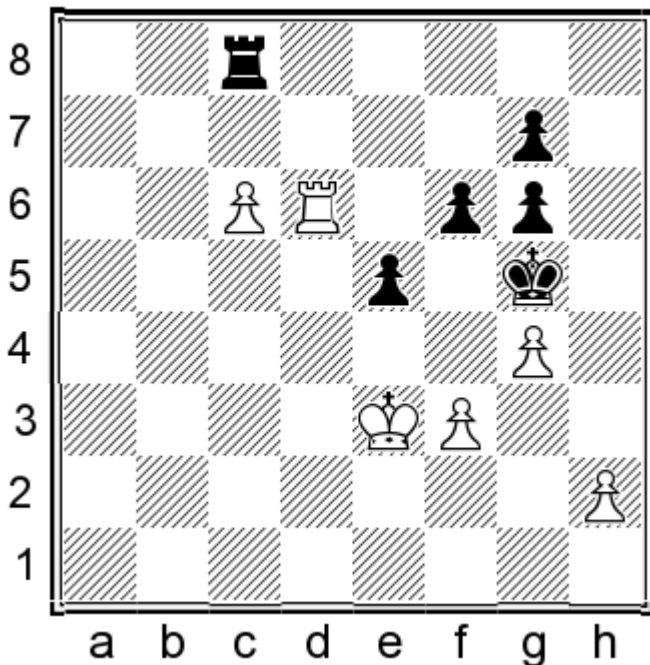
36.a3

36.Rxe5 axb4 37.Bxb4 Rc2 38.a4 Nf4 39.Re4 g5 40.g3 Nd3 41.Bd6 Ra2

42.Bc7 f6 43.a5 Kf7©

36...axb4 37.axb4 Nxc5 38.bxc5 f6 39.Kf2 Kf7 40.Ke3 Ke6 41.Rd6+ Kf5

42.g4+ Kg5 43.c6



43...f5?

RR43...Kh4! 44.Ke4 (44.g5!? f5! (44...Kxg5 45.Ke4 Kh4 46.Kd5 Kh3 47.Rd7

Kxh2 48.Rxg7 g5? 49.Rg6 +-) 45.Rxg6 Kh5 46.Rxg7 Rxc6 47.f4 (47.Rg8 Rc3+ 48.Kf2 Rc2+ 49.Kg3 f4+ 50.Kh3 Rf2 51.Rh8+ Kxg5 52.Rh5+!?=) 47...exf4+ 48.Kxf4 Rc4+ 49.Kxf5 Rc5+ 50.Kf4 (50.Ke4 Rxg5=) 50...Rc4+ 51.Ke3 Rc5=) 44...g5! 45.Kd5 (45.Kf5 Kh3 46.Ke6 Rc7! 47.Kd5 Kxh2 48.Kc5 Kg3 49.Kb6 Rc8 50.Kb7 Re8 51.Rd3 e4!=) 45...Kh3 46.Kc5 Kxh2 47.Kb6 Kg3 48.Rd3 e4 49.fxe4+ Kxg4 50.Kb7 Re8 51.c7 Kf4 52.Rd7 Kxe4 53.Rxg7 Kf4 54.c8=Q Rxc8 55.Kxc8 g4 56.Kd7 g3 57.Ke6 Kf3 58.Kxf6 g2=

44.h4+ Kxh4 45.Rxg6 fxxg4

45...f4+ 46.Ke4 Kg3 47.g5! Rc7 48.Rd6 Kf2 49.Rd2+ Kg3 (49...Ke1 50.Rc2 Kd1 51.Rc4 Ke2 52.g6 Kf2 53.Kxe5 Kxf3 54.Rxf4+ Ke3 55.Rc4 +-) 50.Rc2 +-

46.Rxg4+ Kh5 47.Rc4 Kg5 48.Ke4 Kf6 49.c7?

49.Kd5 Ke7 50.Kxe5 +-

49...Ke6 50.Rc3† 1-0

37. * B33

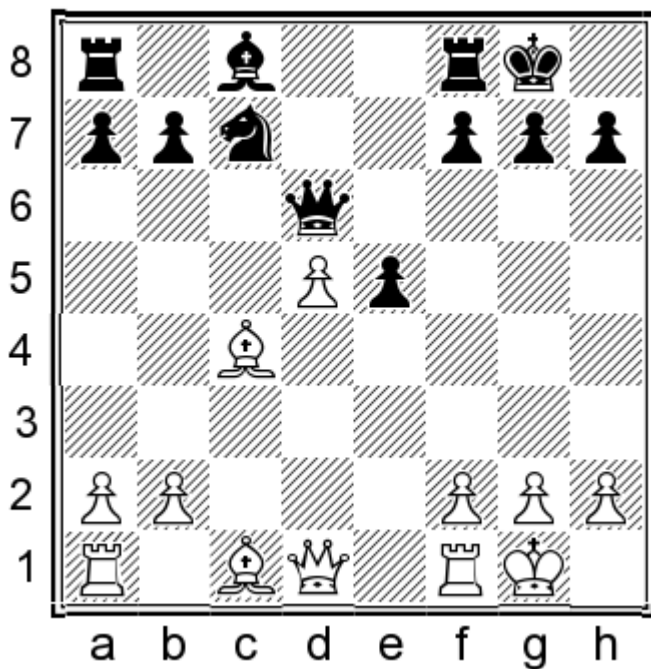
Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2767) - Giri, Anish (2763)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/37, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8

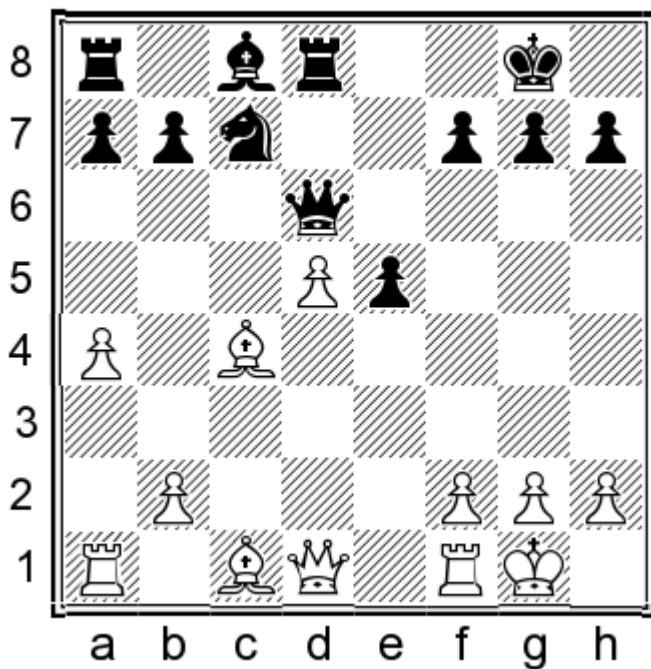
8...Ne7 - 145/37

9.c4 Be7 10.c5!? Na6 11.cxd6 Bxd6 12.Bc4 O-O 13.O-O Nc7 14.Nxd6 Qxd6

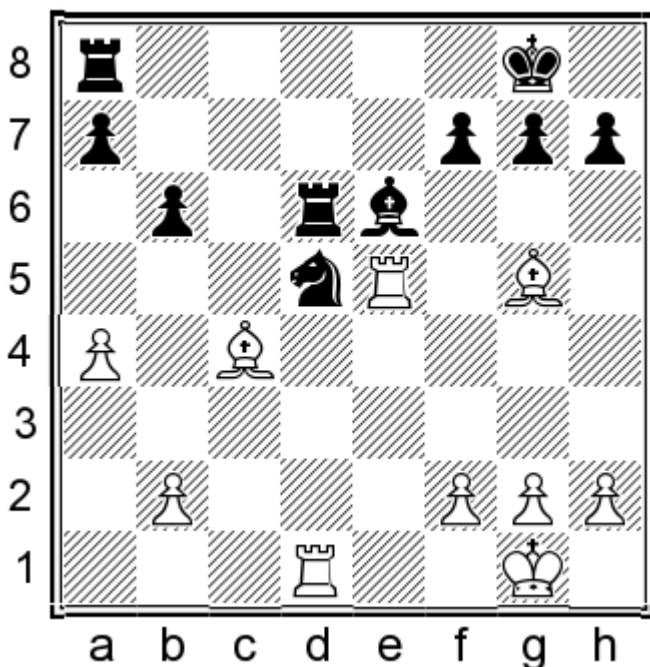


15.Qf3N

15.a4 - 148/(37) 15...Rd8



16.Qe2 (16.Qf3 Nxd5! 17.Bg5 f6 18.Bxd5+ Qxd5 19.Rad1 Qa5 20.Qc3 (20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.Qc3 Rd5 22.Qg3+ Kf8 (22...Kf7? 23.Qb3) 23.Qf3 Be6 24.Qxf6+ Bf7 = 25.Qh8+ Bg8 26.Qf6+ Bf7 =) 20...Rd5 21.Qxa5 Rxa5 22.Rd8+ Kf7 23.Be3 Ra6 24.Rc1 Rc6 25.Rxc6 bxc6 26.a5 a6 27.Bc5 Kg6 28.f3 Bb7 29.Rd7 Bc8 =) 16...b6 17.Re1 Nxd5 18.Qxe5 Qxe5 19.Rxe5 Be6 20.Bg5 Rd6 21.Rd1



21...Ne3! 22.Rxd6 Nxc4 23.Rdxe6 fxe6 24.Re2 Rc8N (24...Kf7 25.Rc2 Rc8 26.f4 e5 27.b3 Nd6 = - 25.f4) 25.f4 Kf7 26.Rc2 e5 27.b3 Nd6 = 1/2 (27) Potrata,J-MacTilstra,I corr 148/(37) 2020 - 25.f4

15.Qd3 b6 16.Rd1 Bb7 17.Bg5 f6 18.Be3² Rad8 19.Rd2

15...b6 16.Rd1 Bb7 17.Bg5

17.b4 Rfd8 18.Bb2 f6 (18...Nxd5 19.h3 Rd7 20.Qe4f) 19.b5 = (19.Rac1 Kh8 20.Bb3 Nxd5! 21.Rd2 Nf4 22.Rxd6 Bxf3 23.Rxd8+ Rxd8 24.gxf3 Ne2+ 25.Kf1 Nxc1 26.Bxc1 Rd4 =)

17...h6?!

17...f6! 18.Be3 Rad8 19.Rd2 Rd7 ∞ 20.Rad1 (20.g4!?) 20...f5

18.Bh4 b5 19.Bb3 Na6 20.Qe2

20.Qe3 Nc5 21.Bc2 Rac8 22.Rd2 ±

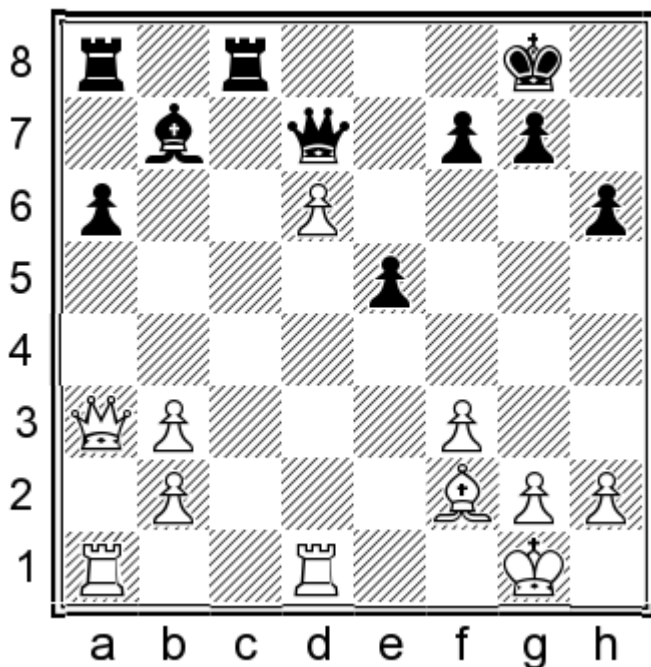
20...Nc5 21.Qxb5 Nxb3 22.axb3

22.Qxb3 Rab8 23.Qe3 ±

22...Rfb8 23.f3

23.Rac1 f6 (23...a6 24.Qa5 Rc8 25.Rc4) 24.f3 a6 25.Qa5 ±

23...a6 24.Qa5 Rc8 25.Qa3 Qb6+ 26.Bf2 Qb5 27.d6 Qd7



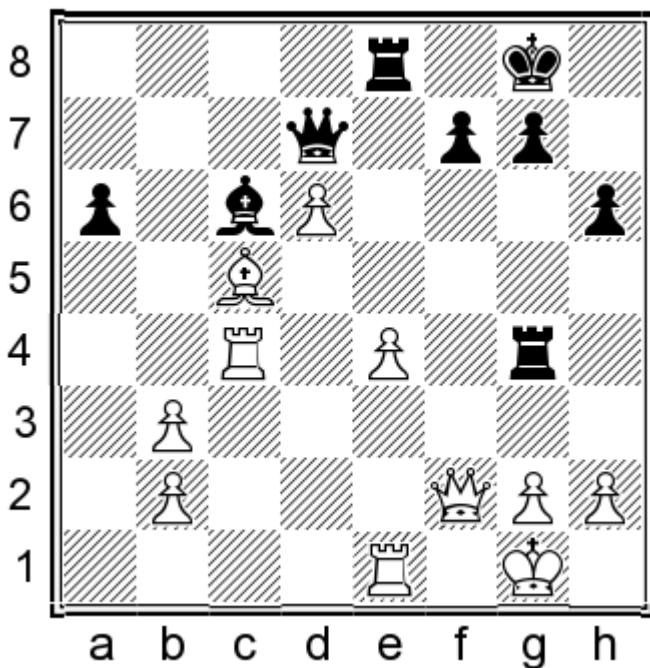
28.Qa4

28.Rd2! e4 (28...Re8 29.Rc1) 29.fxe4 Bxe4 30.Re1 Qg4 31.Bg3 ±

28...Bc6 29.Qh4 Re8! 30.Rac1 Rac8 31.Rc4?!

31.h3; 31.Rc3

31...Re6 32.Bc5 Rg6 33.Qf2 Re8 34.Re1 e4! 35.fxe4 Rg4?



35...f5 =

36.h3?

36.Qc2! Bb5 (36...Qb7? 37.Bf2 Bxe4 38.Rexe4 Rxe4 39.Rxe4 Rxe4 40.d7 + -; 36...f5? 37.Bb4 + -) 37.Rd4 ±

36...Rgxe4 = 37.Rexe4 Rxe4 38.Rxe4 Bxe4 39.Qe2 Bb7 40.b4 Qc6 1/2-1/2

38. B33

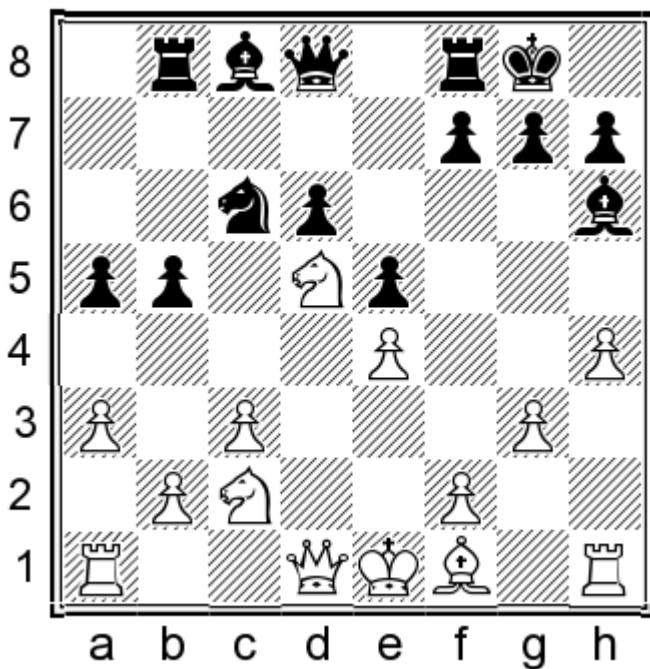
Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2774) - Giri, Anish (2763)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/38, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Nd5 Be7 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.c3 Rb8 12.Nc2 Bg5 13.g3 O-O 14.h4 Bh6 15.a3

15.Bh3 - 75/146

15...a5



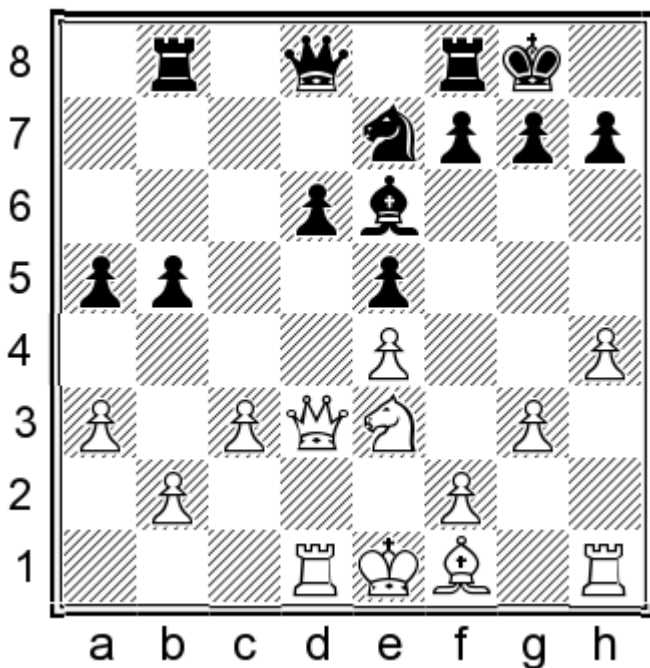
16.Qd3N

16.Bh3

16...Ne7

16...f5 17.Bh3 fxe4 18.Qxe4 Bxh3 19.Rxh3 Qd7 20.g4 Bf4

17.Nce3 Bxe3 18.Nxe3 Be6 19.Rd1



19...Rb6!?

19...b4 20.axb4 axb4 21.c4 (21.Qxd6 Qxd6 22.Rxd6 bxc3 23.bxc3 Rfc8 24.Nd1 h5 25.Bh3 Bxh3 26.Rxh3 Rb1 27.Ke2 g6©) 21...Qa5 =

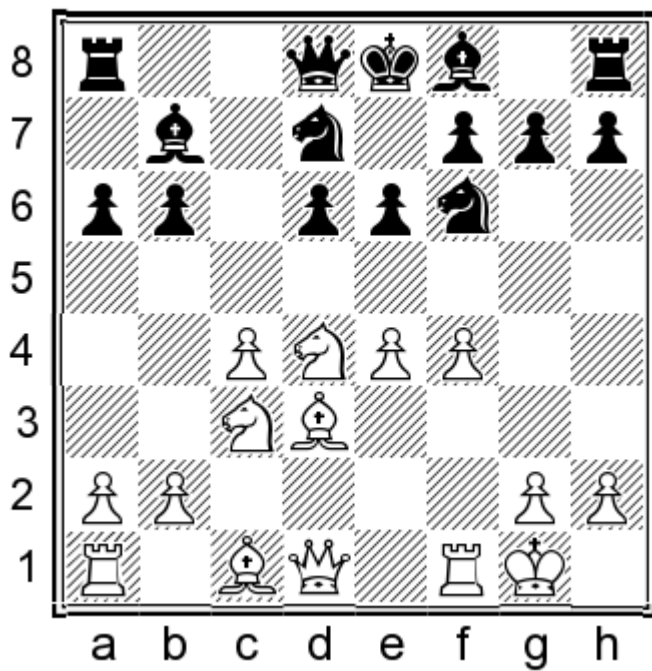
20.Bh3 Bb3 21.Rd2 Qc7 22.O-O Rfb8 23.Rc1 Rc6 24.Bg4 h6 25.Bd1 Be6 26.Bg4 Bb3 27.Bd1 Be6 28.Bg4 1/2-1/2

39. B42

Sargsyan, Shant (2598) - Milanovic, Slavisa (2301)

Beograd 148/39, 2021

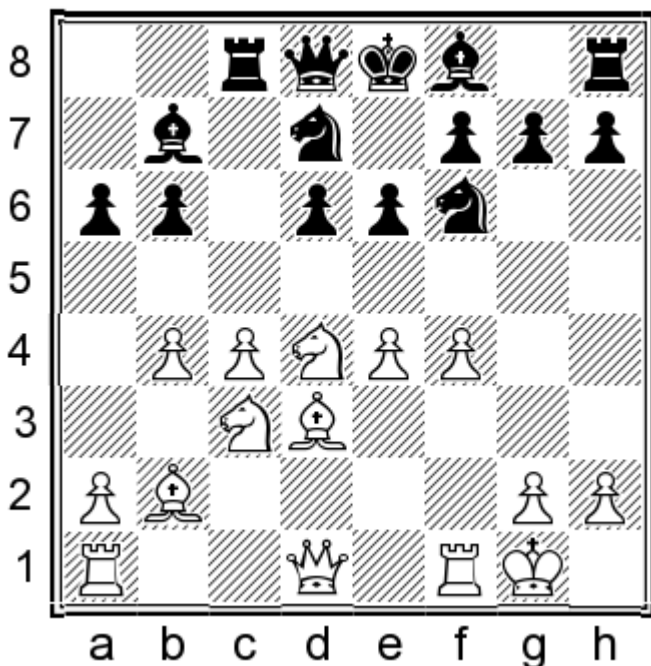
1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 c5 3.e4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.c4 d6 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Bd3 b6 8.O-O Bb7 9.f4 Nbd7



10.b4N

10.Qe2 - 103/(108)

10...Rc8 11.Bb2



11...Qc7

11...g6!? 12.Qe2 e5 13.Nf3 (13.fxe5 Nxe5 14.Nd5 Bg7 15.Nf3 Nxd3 16.Qxd3 O-O∞) 13...exf4 14.Nd5 Bg7 15.e5 Nxd5 16.exd6+ Kf8 17.cxd5 Bxb2 18.Qxb2 Qf6 19.Qxf6 Nxf6 20.Ne5 Nxd5 21.Bc4 Rd8 22.Rad1 Rxd6 23.Rxf4 f6 24.Bxd5 (24.Ng4 Kg7 25.Ne3 Nxf4 26.Rxd6 b5 27.Bxb5 (27.Rd7+ Kh6 28.Rxb7 bxc4 29.Nxc4 Rc8) 27...axb5 28.Rd7+ Kh6 29.Rxb7 Ne2+ 30.Kf2 Nc3 =) 24...Rxd5 (24...Bxd5? 25.Nc4 + -) 25.Rxd5 Bxd5 26.Rxf6+ Kg7 27.Rxb6 Re8 28.Nd3 Bxa2 29.Rxa6 Bc4 30.Ra7+ Kh6 31.Nc5 (31.Rd7 Rb8 =) 31...Re1+ 32.Kf2 Re2+ 33.Kf3 Rb2 =

12.Qe1 Be7 13.Qg3 g6

13...O-O? 14.Nd5! Qd8 (14...exd5? 15.Nf5 + -) 15.Nxe7+ Qxe7 16.Rae1 ±

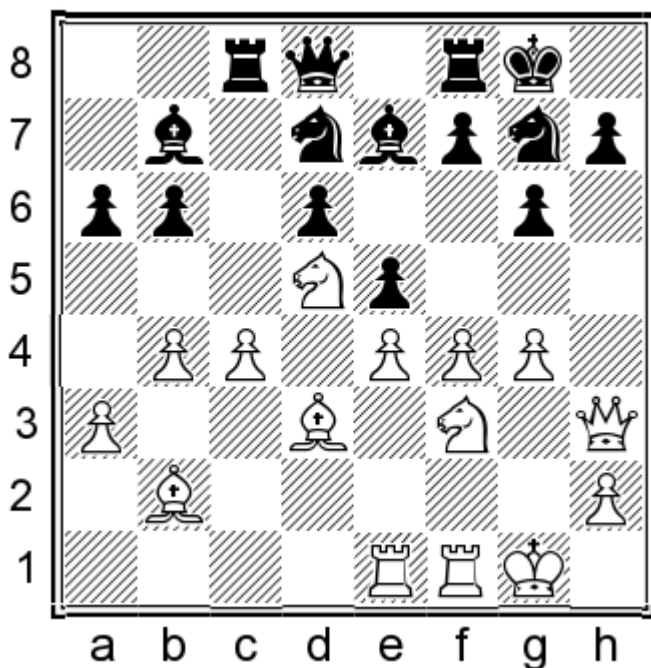
14.Rae1 Nh5

14...e5 15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.fxe5! dxe5 17.exd5 Bxb4 18.Nc6 (18.Rxf6 Bxe1 19.Re6+! fxe6 20.Bxg6+ hxg6 21.Qxg6+ Ke7 22.Qxe6+ Kf8 23.Qf5+ Ke7 24.Nc6+ Qxc6 25.dxc6 Rxc6 26.Qe4 Rch6 27.Qxe1 Rxb2 28.Qe4²) 18...Nh5 (18...Bxe1?! 19.Rxe1 ±) 19.Qh4 O-O 20.Nxb4 Qc5+ 21.Kh1 Qxb4 22.Bxe5 Nxe5 23.Rxe5 Qc3 24.Re3f

15.Qh3 O-O 16.g4 Ng7 17.a3

17.Qh6 Nf6 (17...Rfe8? 18.Ncb5! + -) 18.h3 ±

17...e5 18.Nd5 Qd8 19.Nf3



19.Nxe7+ Qxe7 20.Ne2f

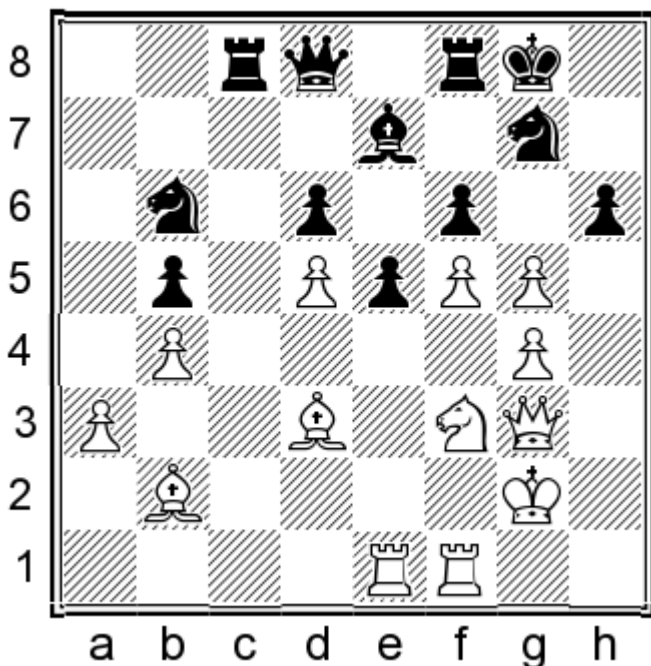
19...f6?

19...exf4 20.Qh6 Ne6 21.Nxf4 Bf6 22.Bxf6 Qxf6 23.Nd5 Bxd5 24.exd5 Nf4
25.Bf5 gxf5 26.Qxf4 fxg4 27.Qxg4+ Qg6 ∞

20.f5 g5 21.Qg3

21.Qh6 ... h4f

21...h6 22.h4 Bxd5 23.exd5 b5 24.cxb5 axb5 25.Kg2 Nb6 26.hxg5?!



26.Be4 ±

26...hgx5?

26...Nxd5! 27.gxf6 (27.gxh6!? Nf4+ 28.Qxf4! exf4 29.g5!? (29.hxg7 Rf7 (29...Kxg7? 30.g5 ±)) 29...Ne8 30.Nd4 Qd7 (30...fxg5? 31.h7+! Kf7 32.Ne6 Bf6 33.Nxd8+ Rxd8 34.Bxf6 Nxf6 35.Bxb5 ±) 31.Ne6 Rc3! 32.h7+ Kxh7 33.Bxc3 Qc6+ 34.Rf3 Qxc3 35.Nxf8+ Bxf8 36.Rxe8 Kg7∞) 27...Bxf6 28.Bb1 Nf4+ 29.Kh1²

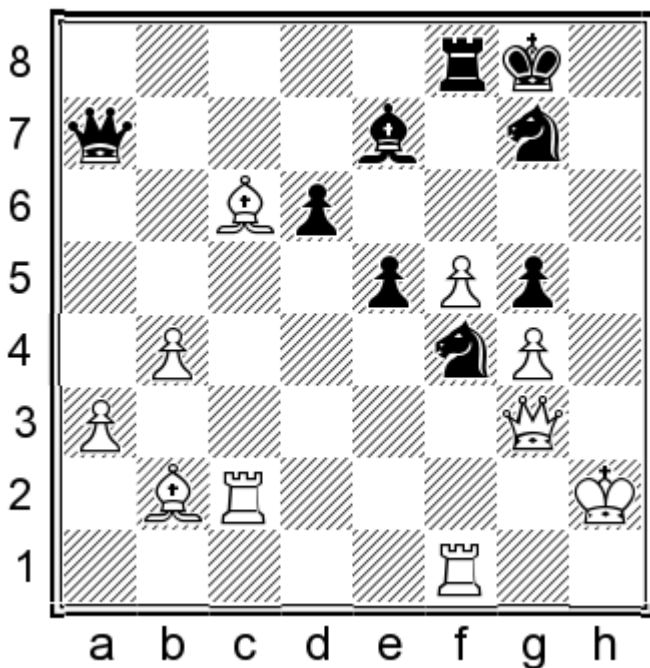
27.Bxb5 Nxd5 28.Nxg5! Rc2+

28...fxg5 29.Qb3 Ne8 30.Qxd5+ Kg7 31.Bxe8 Rxe8 32.Rc1 +-

29.Re2 Qa8

29...Rxe2+ 30.Bxe2 Qa8 31.Bc4 +-

30.Rxc2 Nf4+ 31.Kh2 fxg5 32.Bc6 Qa7



33.Rxf4!

33.Rxf4 gxf4 34.Qb3+ Rf7 (34...Kh8 35.Qh3+ Kg8 36.Bd5+ Rf7 37.g5 +-)
35.Bd5 +-

1-0

40. B45

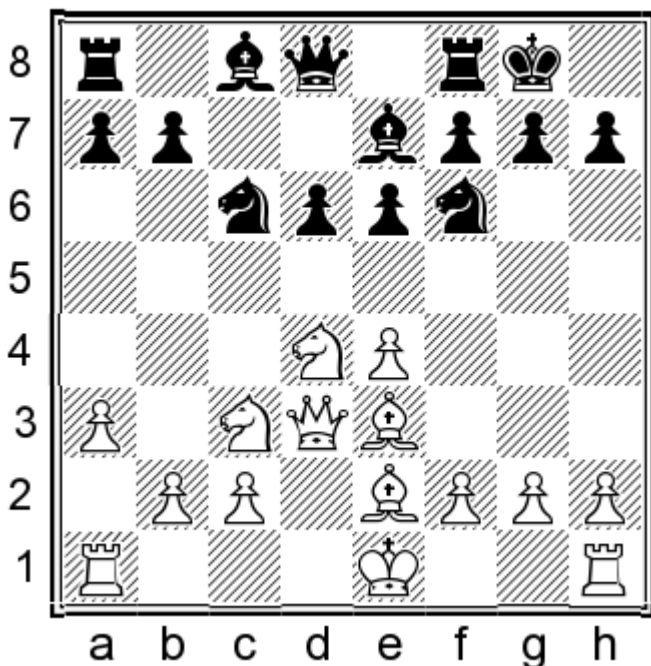
Caruana, Fabiano (2842) - Giri, Anish (2763)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/40, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.a3!? Be7 7.Be3

7.Nxc6 - 139/54

7...O-O 8.Be2 d6 9.Qd3!?



9.f4 - 63/(151)

9...Bd7N

9...Ne5 10.Qd2 Nfg4 (10...b5!?) 11.Bf4 a6 12.f3 Nf6 13.O-O-O²; 9...Nxd4 10.Qxd4 b6 11.O-O-O Bb7 12.f3 d5 13.e5 Nd7 14.f4 Rc8 =

10.f4

10.Ndb5 Ne5 11.Qd2 Bxb5 12.Bxb5 a6 13.Be2 Rc8³

10...e5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.O-O exf4 13.Bxf4 Be6

13...Bg4 14.Kh1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Re8 ∞

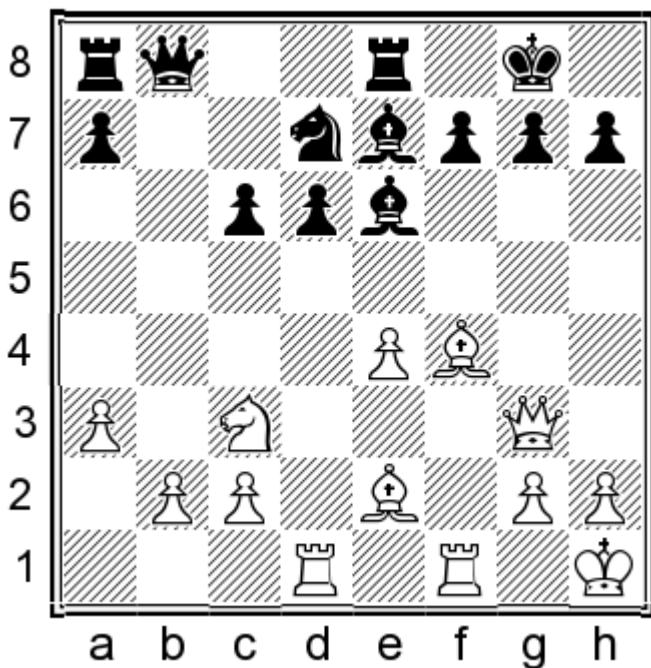
14.Qg3 Nd7

14...h5!? 15.Bg5 (15.Kh1 h4 16.Qe1 Ng4 17.Rd1 Qc7 ∞) 15...Ng4 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.Rad1 Rad8 ∞

15.Rad1 Re8 16.Kh1

16.Bxd6 Qb6+ 17.Kh1 Bxd6 18.Rxd6 Qxb2 19.Rfd1 (19.Rxc6 Qxa3 ∞) 19...Nc5 20.Rxc6 Qxa3 ∞

16...Qb8



17.b4?!

17.b3 Ne5 18.Bh5! g6 19.Ne2 Kh8 20.Bf3 Bf6 21.Nd4²

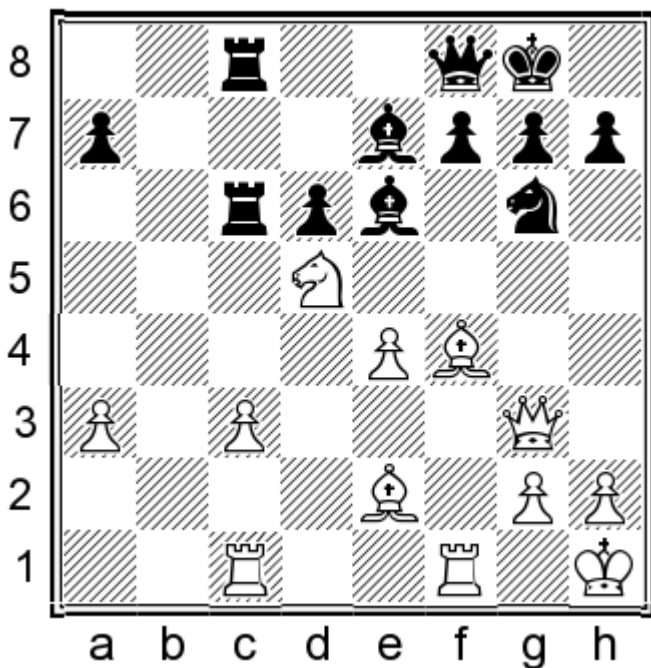
17...Ne5 18.b5 Rc8 19.bxc6 Rxc6 20.Nd5 Qf8 21.c3

21.c4 Nxc4 22.Bxc4 Rxc4 23.Nxe7+ Qxe7 24.Bxd6 Qe8 25.Be5 Qf8 ∞

21...Rac8 22.Rc1?!

22.c4 Nxc4 23.Bxc4 Rxc4 24.Nxe7+ Qxe7 25.Bxd6 Qe8 26.Be5 Qf8 ∞

22...Ng6



23.Bd2?!

23.Bg4 Nxf4 24.Qxf4 Qe8 25.Bf5 Rc4 26.Qg4 Bxf5 27.Qxf5 Bd8 ∞

23...Bh4³ 24.Qe3 Rc5 25.c4 h6! 26.Qb3 Bg5 27.Bxg5

27.Bb4 Bxc1 28.Bxc5 Rxc5 29.Rxc1 Qe8μ

27...hxg5 28.Qg3 Qd8 29.Rcd1 Bxd5 30.exd5 Nf4 31.Qf2 R8c7 32.Rd4 Qe8 33.Bf3 Rxc4

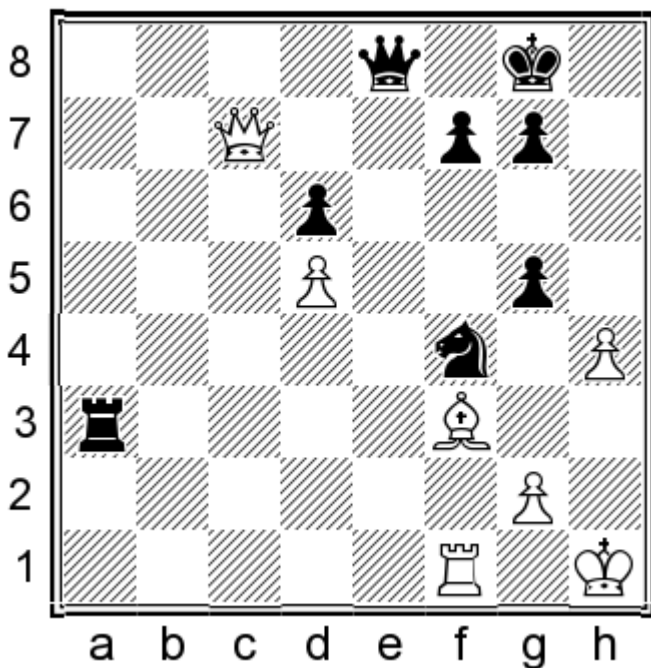
¹33...Ng6 34.Be4 (34.Re4 Re7 35.Rxe7 Qxe7 36.Be2 Ne5μ) 34...Ne5 35.Qf5 g6 36.Qxg5 Rxc4 37.Rxc4 Rxc4μ

34.Rxc4 Rxc4 35.Qxa7 Ra4

35...f5! 36.h3 Qe5μ

36.Qf2?

36.Qc7! Rxa3 37.h4!



(37.Qxd6 Rxf3! 38.gxf3 Qe2 39.Qb8+ Kh7 40.Qb1+ g6- +) 37...Ng6!
 (37...Qe5 38.Qd8+ Kh7 39.Qxg5 Qxg5 40.hxg5 Kg6 41.g3 Nd3 42.Be4+
 Kxg5 43.Rxf7 g6³) 38.hxg5 (38.Qxd6 Ra4 39.hxg5 (39.g3 Qb5 40.Bg2 gxh4-
 +) 39...Rh4+ 40.Kg1 Qe3+ 41.Rf2 Kh7!- +) 38...Ra4 39.g3 Ne5 40.Bg2
 Qf8³

36...Rxa3 37.h4

37.Re1 Qa4- +

**37...Qe5 38.hxg5 Qxg5 39.Re1 Ra8 40.Be4 Ra2 41.Rb1 Ra8 42.Re1 f5
 43.Bb1 Kf7 44.Re3 Rh8+ 45.Kg1 Nxd5 0-1**

41. B45

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2770)
 chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/41, 2021

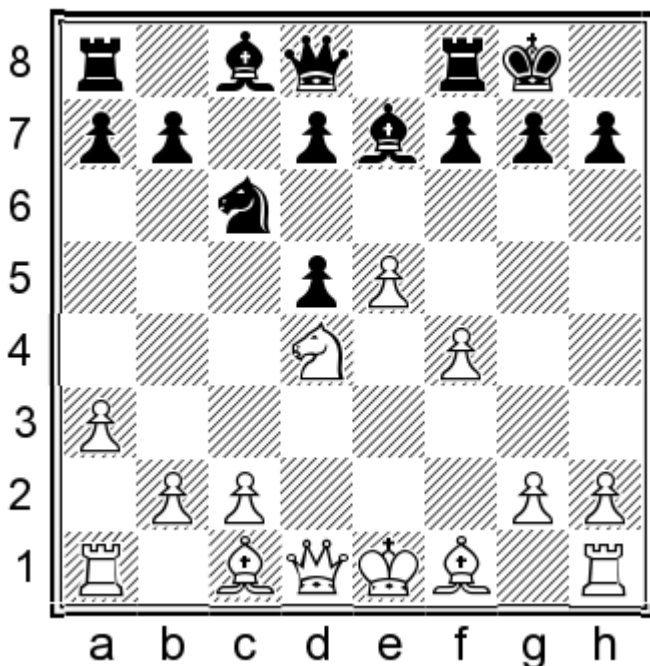
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.a3 Be7 7.f4 O-O!

7...d6 - 30/368

8.e5?!

8.Be3 e5!? 9.Nxc6 (9.Nf5?! d5!µ) 9...dxc6 10.f5 Qxd1+ 11.Rxd1 g6∞

8...Nd5 9.Nxd5 exd5



10.Nxc6N

10.Nf5?! d6 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7 12.Qxd5 dxe5μ; 10.Nf3 d6 11.Qxd5 Be6
 12.Qd3 dxe5 13.Qxd8 Raxd8 14.fxe5 Bd5 15.Bf4 (15.Be2 Bxf3 16.Bxf3 Nxe5
 17.Bxb7 Bc5³) 15...Bxf3 16.gxf3 Bh4+ 17.Bg3 Nxe5!³

10...bxc6 11.Bd3 Bc5 12.Qf3

12.b4 Bb6 13.Bb2 Qh4+ 14.g3 Qh3μ

12...d6 13.Be3 Rb8?!

13...Bxe3 14.Qxe3 Re8 15.O-O (15.O-O-O f6μ) 15...f6μ

14.b4 Bxe3 15.Qxe3 a5 16.O-O axb4 17.axb4 dxe5

¹17...Rxb4 18.Ra8 Qc7 19.exd6 Qxd6 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.Rxc8 Rc4 22.Rxf8
 Qxf8 23.Re1³

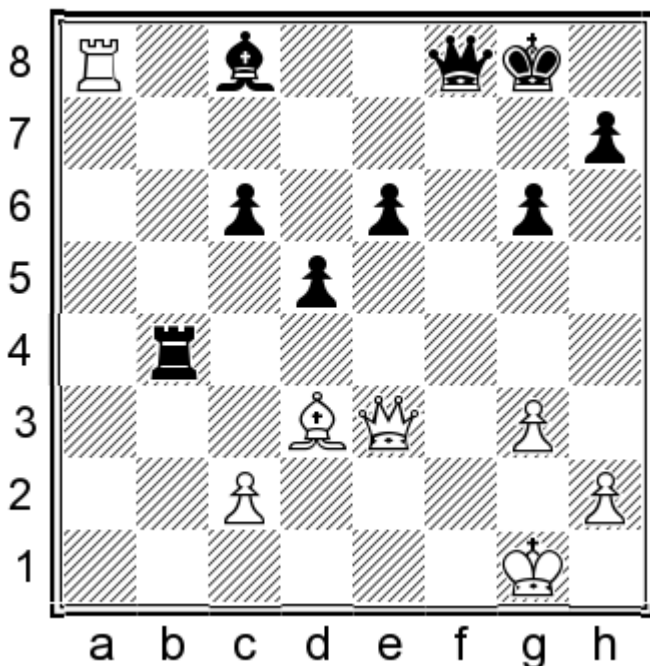
18.fxe5 Rxb4 19.Ra8 g6?!

19...Qb6 20.Qxb6 Rxb6 21.e6 Bxe6 22.Bxh7+ Kxh7 23.Rxf8 Rb2 24.Rc1 d4!
 =

20.e6!

20.Ba6 Qd7 21.Bxc8 (21.Qc5 Re4 22.Ra7 Qd8 23.Ra8 Qd7 =) 21...Rxc8
 22.e6 fxe6 23.Ra7 d4! 24.Qe5 Qxa7 25.Qxe6+ Kg7 26.Qe5+ Kg8 =

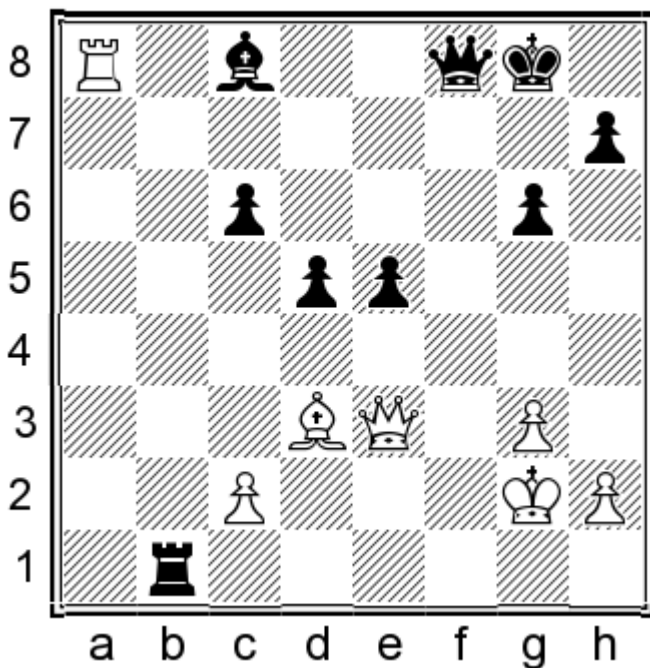
20...fxe6 21.Rxf8+ Qxf8 22.g3!



22...Rb1+?

22...e5! 23.Qe1 (23.h4 Rb1+ 24.Kh2 Rb2 25.Qe2 Rb6 26.Qf1 e4 27.Be2 (27.Qxf8+ Kxf8 28.Rxc8+ Ke7 29.Bf1 Kd6 ∞) 27...Rb2 28.Qxf8+ Kxf8 29.Rxc8+ Ke7 30.Rxc6 Kd7 31.Rc5 Kd6 32.Rc8 d4 33.Kh3 d3 34.Bxd3 exd3 35.cxd3 Kd7 36.Rh8 h5 =) 23...Rb2 24.Ba6 (24.Qc1 Rb6 25.Qf1 Qd8 26.Ba6 Rxa6 27.Qxa6 Bxa6 28.Rxd8+ Kg7 = (28...Kf7 29.Rd7+ Ke6 30.Rxh7 d4 =)) 24...Qc5+ 25.Kh1 Qxc2 26.Rxc8+ Kf7 27.Qf1+ Qf2 28.Rc7+ Kf8 29.Qxf2+ (29.Rxc6 Qxf1+ 30.Bxf1 e4²) 29...Rxf2 30.Rxc6 e4²

23.Kg2 e5



24.g4! [× Bc8] **24...e4**

¹24...Rb4 25.h3 Rf4 26.Kg3 Rf7 27.Ba6 Bxa6 28.Rxf8+ Rxf8 29.Qxe5 Bb5
30.Qe6+ Kg7 31.h4 +-

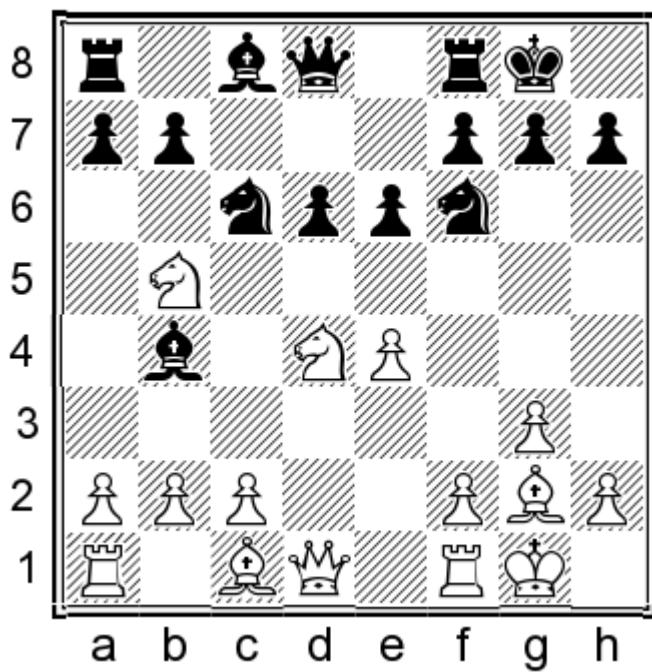
25.Ba6 Bxa6 26.Rxf8+ Kxf8 27.Qa3+ 1-0

42. * B45

Safarli, Eltaj (2598) - Abasov, Nijat (2665)

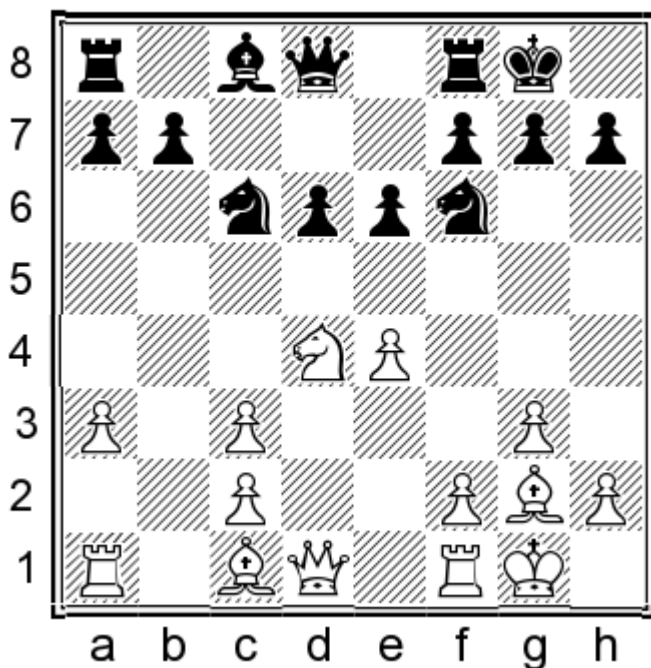
Azerbaijan (ch-m/4-blitz) 148/42, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nf6 6.g3 Bb4 7.Bg2 O-O
8.O-O d6 9.Ncb5**



9.Na4 - 147/36

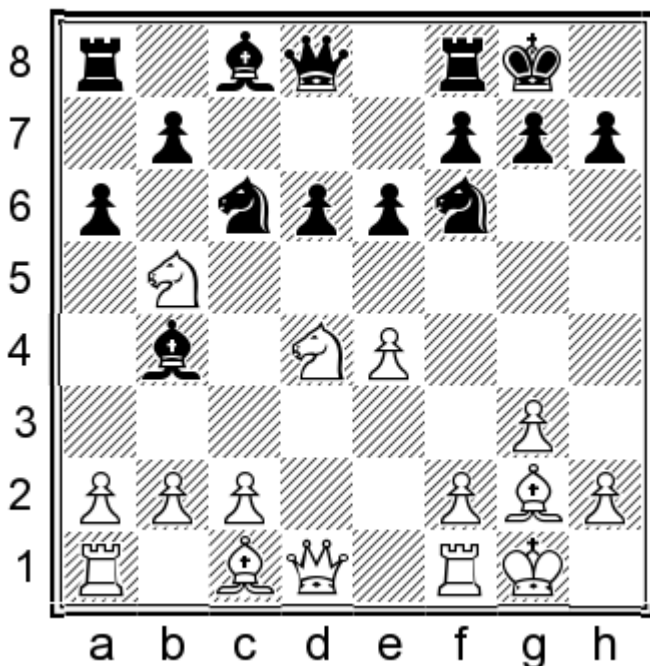
9.a3 Bxc3 10.bxc3



10...e5N (10...Ne8) 11.Nf5 d5 12.exd5 Bxf5 13.dxc6 bxc6 14.Qe2 e4 ∞
Safarli,E (2598)-Abasov,N (2665) Azerbaijan (ch-m/1-rapid) 148/(42) 2021

9...e5N

9...a6



10.Nxc6!? (10.c3 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 Bc5 12.Nb3 Ba7 13.Re1 e5 14.Be3 Bg4 15.Qd2 Bxe3 16.Rxe3 Qb6 17.Rd3 Rfd8 18.Rc1 Rac8=) 10...bxc6 11.Nd4 Bb7 12.Nb3²

10.Nf5

10.c3 Bc5 11.Nb3 a6 12.Nxc5 axb5 13.Nd3 h6 ∞

10...Bxf5 11.exf5 a6 12.Nc3 Bxc3 13.bxc3 h6 14.Rb1 Qd7?!

14...e4 15.Rxb7 Ne5 16.Bf4 (16.Re1 Qc8 17.Re7 Qxf5 18.Qxd6 Nf3+ 19.Bxf3 exf3 ∞) 16...Re8 17.Bxe5 Rxe5 ∞; 14...Na5!? ∞

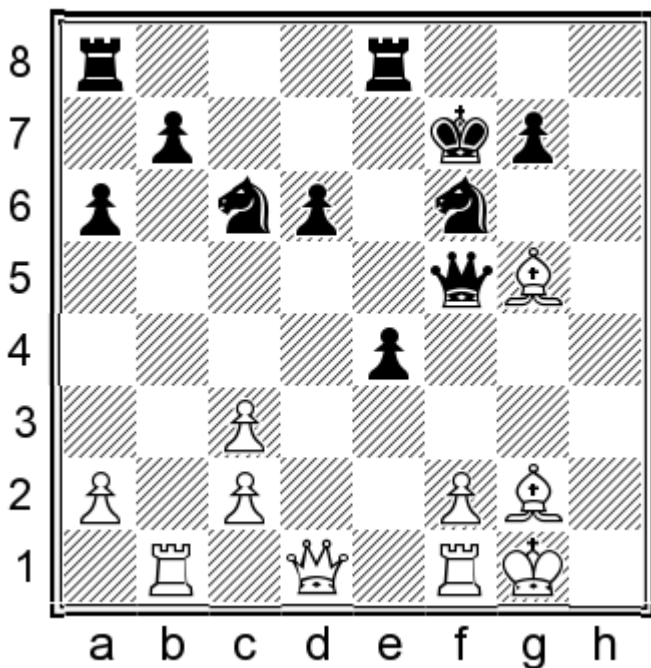
15.g4 e4

15...d5 16.h4 Rfd8 17.g5 Ne4 18.Qf3²

16.h4 Rfe8 17.g5 hxg5 18.hxg5 Nh7 19.g6?!

19.Qg4 d5 20.Bh3! Ne5 21.Qg3 Nf3+ 22.Kg2 ±

19...Nf6 20.Bg5 Qxf5 21.gxf7+ Kxf7



22.Bh4?

22.Rxb7+ Re7 23.Rxe7+ Nxe7 24.Qd2 Rc8 ∞

22...Re7 23.Qxd6 g5 24.Bg3

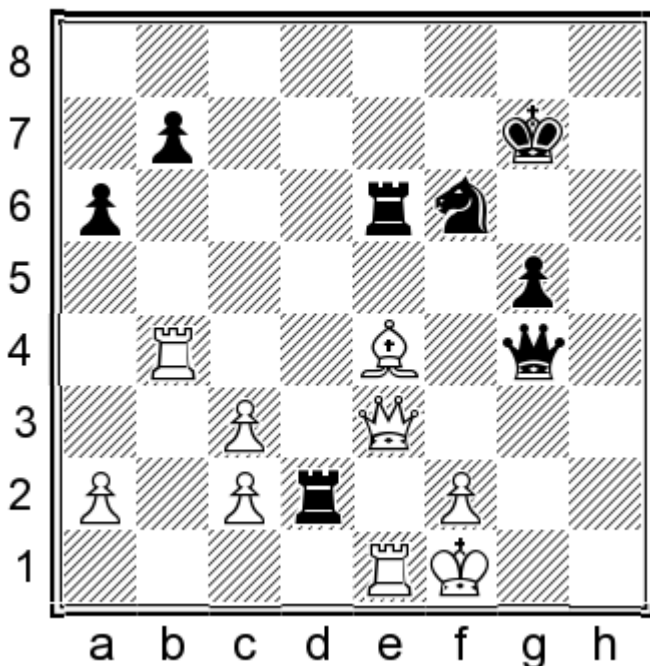
24.Rxb7 Rxb7 25.Qxc6 Rbb8 26.Bg3 Re8μ

24...Rd8 25.Qa3 Ne5

25...Nh5!- +

26.Qb3+ Kg6 27.Bxe5 Qxe5 28.Rfe1 Rd2 29.Qb6 Qf4 30.Rb4 Re6 31.Qc5

31.Bxe4+ Kg7 32.Qe3 Qg4+ 33.Kf1



33...Rd1! 34.f3 (34.Rxb7+ Kh6- +) 34...Qh3+ 35.Ke2 Rxe4! 36.Rxe4 Rxe1+
 37.Kxe1 Nxe4 38.Qxe4 Qh4+ 39.Qxh4 gxh4- +; 31.Qe3 Qxe3 32.fxe3 Kh5!
 33.Rxb7 Kg4 34.Bf1 Kg3 35.Re2 Rxe2 36.Bxe2 Nd5- +

31...Rxc2

31...Ng4!- +

32.Rxb7?

32.Qe3 Qxe3 33.fxe3 b6 34.Reb1 Rxc3 35.Rxb6 Rxb6 36.Rxb6 Kf5 37.Rxa6
 Rxe3- +

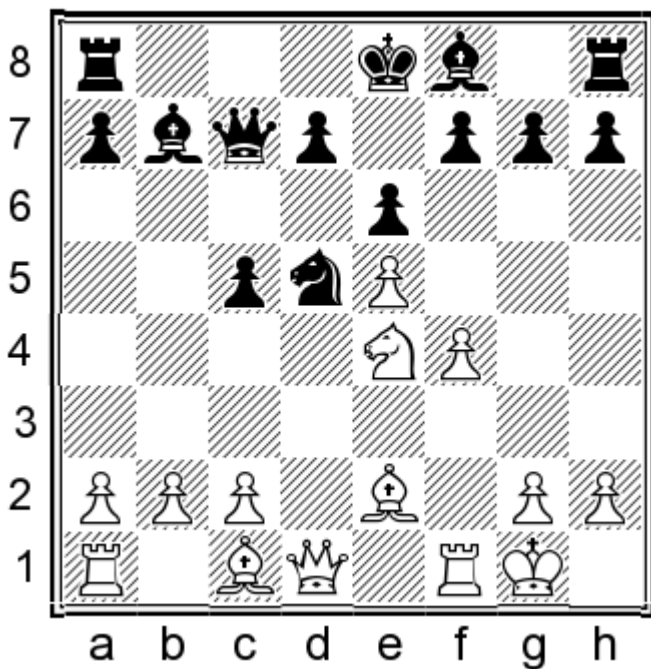
32...e3- + 33.Rf1 exf2+ 34.Rxf2 Re1+ 35.Bf1 Qg3+ 0-1

43. ** B45

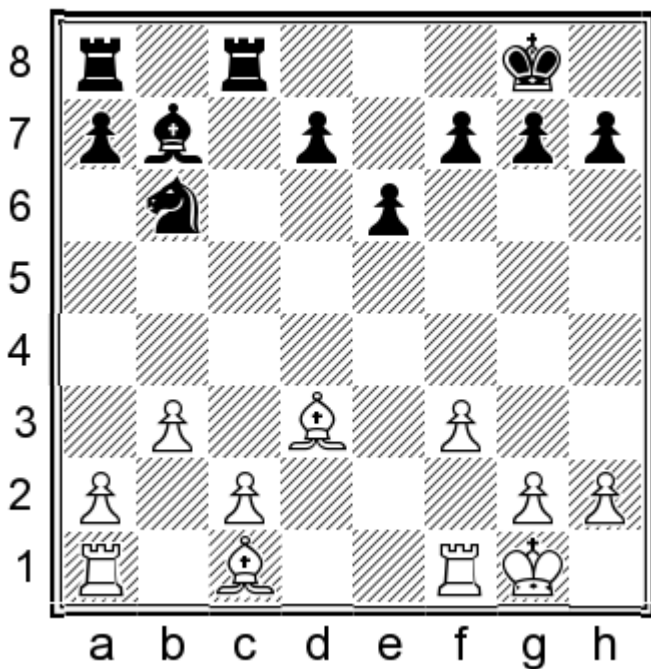
Lagarde, Maxime (2638) - Agdestein, Simen (2552)

tornelo.com (Int.-m/2) 148/43, 2021

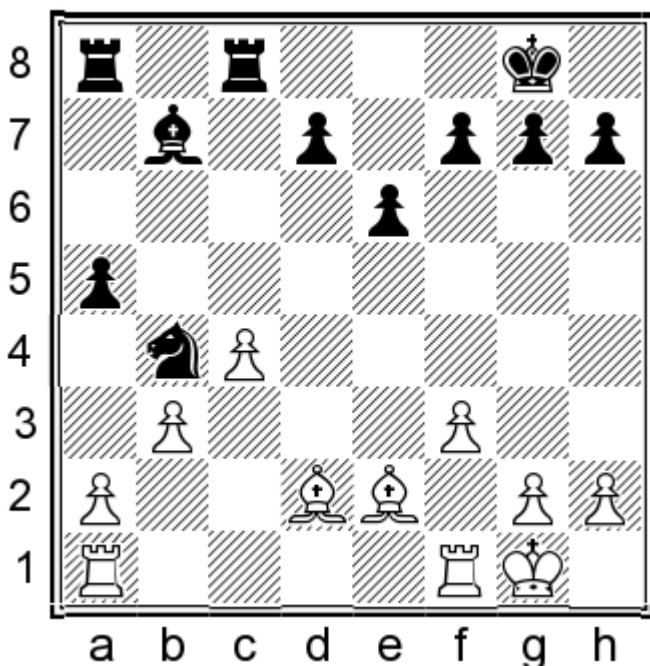
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nd5
 8.Ne4 Bb7 9.Be2 c5 10.O-O Qc7 11.f4!?



11.Nd6+ Bxd6 12.exd6 Qc6 13.f3 c4 14.Qd4 O-O 15.Bxc4 Qxd6 16.b3 Qb6
17.Qxb6 Nxb6 18.Bd3 Rfc8



19.Be3N (19.Bb2 - 142/43) 19...Nd5 20.Bd2 a5 21.c4 Nb4 22.Be2



22...f5?! - 148/(43) (22...d5N 23.Rfc1 Kf8 24.a3 Nc6 25.Be3² Carlsen,M (2847)-Artemiev,V (2709) chess24.com (Int.-m/ 4-bltz) 148/(43) 2021)
23.Rfc1 Kf7 24.a3 Nc6 25.Bc3 Ne7 26.b4 axb4 27.axb4± Drygalov,A (2495)-Grachev, B (2612) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(43) 2020

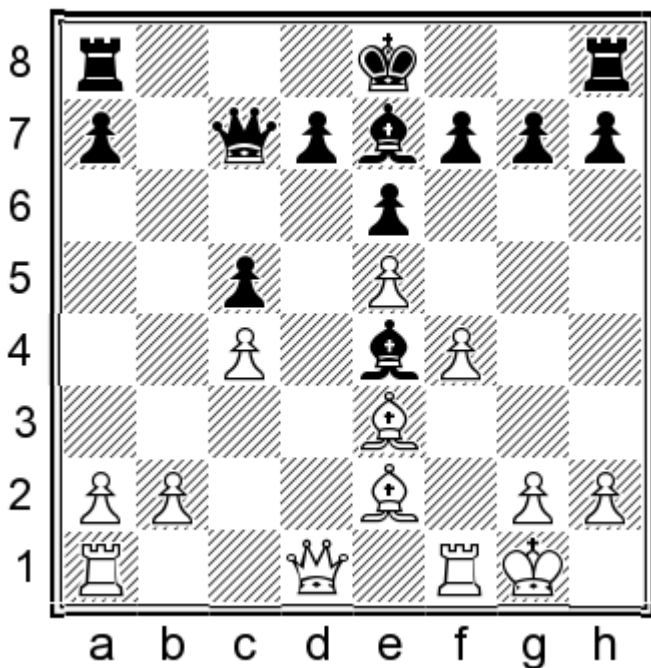
11...Be7

11...c4! 12.Kh1 (12.Qd4 Nb4!? (12...Qb6 13.Qxb6 Nxb6 14.Bf3 Bxe4 15.Bxe4 Bc5+ 16.Kh1 Rb8∞) 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.exd6 Nxc2 15.dxc7 Nxd4 16.Bxc4 Rc8 17.Bd3 Rxc7 18.Be3©) 12...Be7 13.Qd4 Qb6 14.Qxb6 (14.Qxc4 Nb4f) 14...axb6!? (14...Nxb6∞) 15.Bxc4 Nb4 16.Bd3 O-O 17.Bd2 Nxd3 18.cxd3 Rfc8©

12.c4 Ne3 13.Bxe3

13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Bxe3 (14.exd6 Qc6 15.Bf3 Nxd1 16.Bxc6 Bxc6 17.Rxd1 O-O 18.Be3 Rfc8=) 14...Be7

13...Bxe4



14.Bd3N

14.Bf3 Qb7 (14...Bxf3 15.Qxf3 O-O 16.Bd2! d6 (16...f6 17.Bc3 fxe5 18.Bxe5 d6 19.Bc3 Rae8²) 17.exd6 Bxd6 18.Bc3²) 15.Bxe4 Qxe4 16.Qf3 Qxf3 17.Rxf3 f6²

14...Bxd3 15.Qxd3 O-O

15...Rd8 16.Rad1 (16.Bd2 d5 17.cxd5 Rxd5 18.Qe2 O-O=) 16...d6 17.f5! dxe5 18.Qc2²

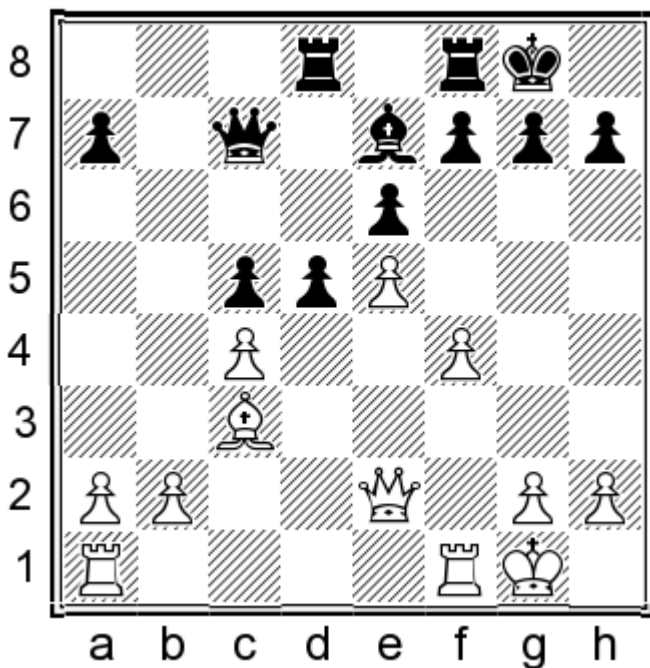
16.Bd2 d6

16...d5 17.cxd5 exd5 18.Rae1 Rad8 19.f5²; 16...f6 17.Bc3 fxe5 18.fxe5²

17.Bc3 Rad8 18.Qe2

18.exd6 Qxd6 19.Qg3 g6²

18...d5



19.f5?!

19.Rad1 ∞

19...exf5?!

19...d4! 20.Bd2 (20.f6 dxc3 21.bxc3 Rfe8! 22.fxe7 Qxe7³) 20...exf5 21.Rxf5 Qc6 22.Raf1 Rde8³

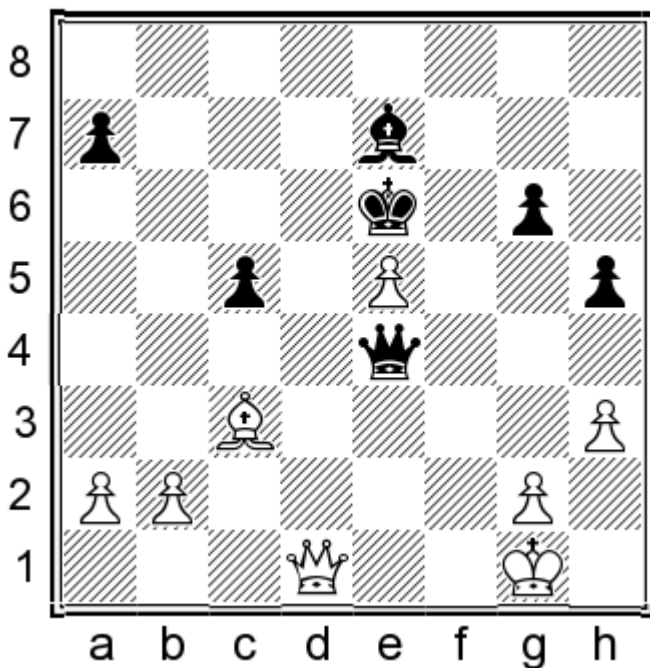
20.cxd5 Rxd5 21.Rxf5 Qd7 22.Raf1 Qe6 23.Qg4 g6 24.h3 h5 25.Qg3 Rd1?

25...c4? 26.Rf6! Bxf6 27.Rxf6 Qe7 (27...Rd3 28.Qf4 Qd5 29.e6 ±) 28.e6 Kh7 29.exf7 Qe4 30.Bb4 (30.Kh2!? →) 30...Qd4+ 31.Qf2 Qxf2+ 32.Rxf2 Rd1+ 33.Kh2 Kg7 34.Bxf8+ Kxf8 ±; 25...Kh7 26.R5f3 c4 27.Kh1²

26.Rxf7! Rxf1+ 27.Rxf1 Rxf1+ 28.Kxf1 Qf5+ 29.Kg1 Kf7 30.Qe1 Ke6?

30...Bg5! 31.Qd1 (31.Qe2 Qf4!²) 31...Be3+ 32.Kh1 Qf4 ±

31.Qd1 Qe4



32.Kh1! Qf4

32...a6 ±

33.Qd3 g5

33...Kf7 34.Qd5+ Kf8 35.Bd2 Qf1+ 36.Kh2 g5 37.e6 +- -

34.Qg6+ Kd5 35.Qxh5 Qf1+ 36.Kh2 Ke4

36...Qf4+ 37.Kg1 Qc1+ 38.Kf2 Qc2+ 39.Kg3 +- -

37.Bd2 Kxe5 38.Bxg5 Bd6 39.Be7+ Ke6+ 40.Bxd6 Kxd6 41.Qg6+ Kd5

42.Qg5+ Kd6 43.h4 Qe2 44.h5 Qxb2 45.h6 Qc2 46.Qf6+ Kd5 47.Qf7+ 1-0

44. !N B45

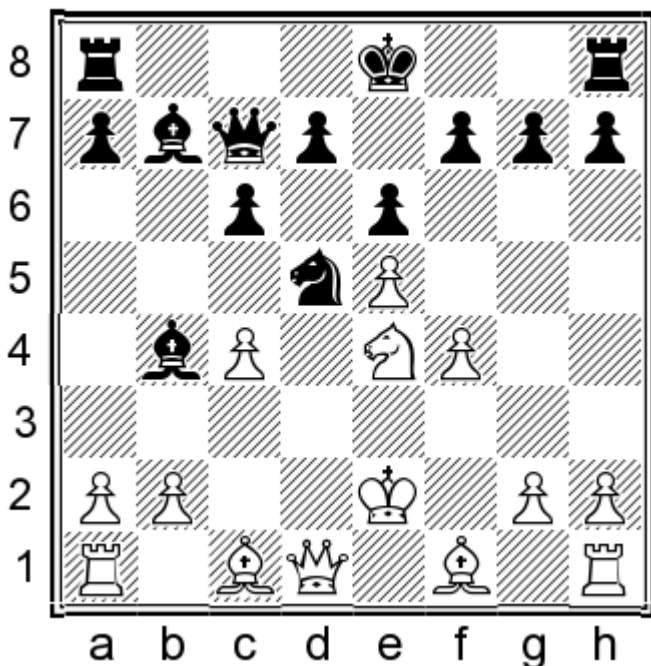
Pichot, Alan (2630) - Aronian, Levon (2781)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/44, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nd5
8.Ne4 Qc7 9.f4 Bb7!?**

9...Qb6 - 147/38

10.c4 Bb4+ 11.Ke2



11.Bd2? Nxf4! 12.Bxb4 Qxe5 13.Qd6 (13.Qf3 c5 14.Bd2 Ng6 15.Bd3 f5μ)
13...Qxe4+ 14.Kf2 Ng6μ; 11.Kf2 f5! ∞

11...O-O!N

11...f5? 12.Nd6+ + -; 11...Ba6 12.Kf3 + -

12.cxd5

12.a3 Be7 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.Nf2 f6©

12...cxd5 13.Ng5

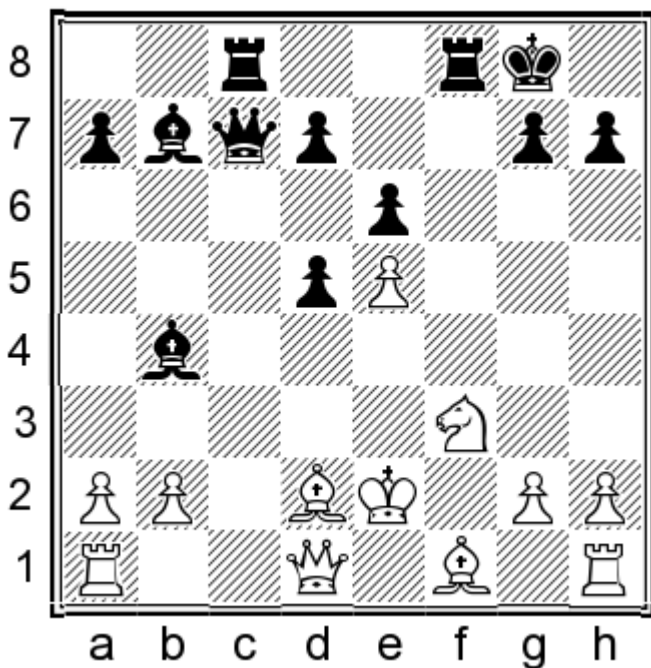
13.Nd6 f6 14.Nxb7 fxe5 15.Qb3 a5 16.a3 Be7©

13...f6 14.Nf3?

14.exf6! Rxf6 (14...gxf6 15.Nf3 e5 16.Bd2 a5 17.Bxb4 axb4 18.Ke1 ±)
15.Qd3 Rf5 16.Kd1 d4 17.a3 Bd6©

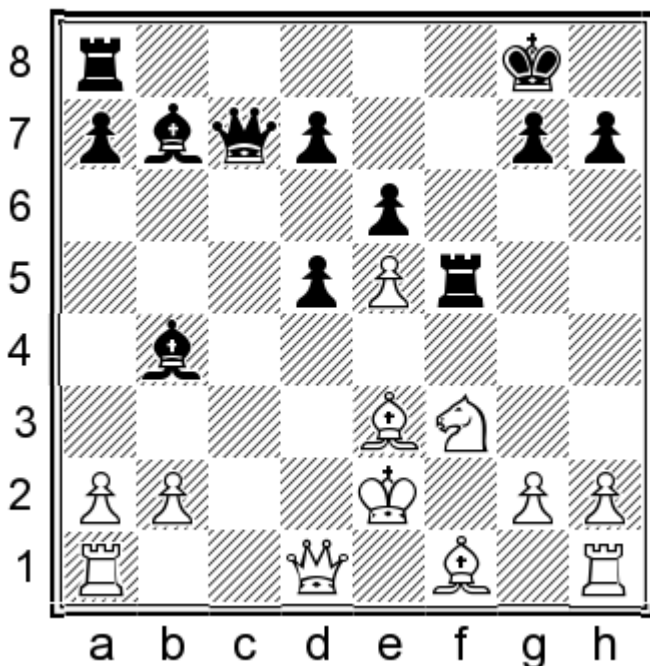
14...fxe5 15.fxe5 Rf5?!

15...Rxf3!? 16.gxf3 Qxe5+ 17.Kf2 Rf8 18.Be2 d4 19.h4™ (19.Bd2? d3- +)
19...Be4 (19...Qf5 20.Qb3 a5 21.Bd2! Bxd2 22.Qxb7 d3 23.Bd1 d5 ∞) 20.Kg2
Bd6 21.Rh3 Bf5 22.f4 Bxh3+ 23.Kxh3 Qf5+ 24.Bg4 Qe4 25.Bf3 Qf5+ = ;
15...Rac8! 16.Bd2



(16.Qb3 Rxf3! 17.gxf3 Qxe5+ 18.Kf2 Be1+ 19.Kg2 Rxc1 20.Rxc1 Qg5+ 21.Kh3 Qxc1μ) 16...d4! 17.Kf2 (17.Bxb4 Bxf3+ 18.gxf3 Qxe5+ 19.Kf2 Rc2+! 20.Be2 (20.Qxc2 Qe3+ 21.Kg2 Qxf3+ 22.Kg1 Qe3+ 23.Kg2 Qg5+ 24.Kh3 Rf3#) 20...Rxf3+! 21.Kxf3 Qe3+ 22.Kg4 Rxe2 23.Qxe2 Qxe2+ 24.Kg3 Qxb2- +) 17...Qxe5 18.Qe2 Qxe2+ 19.Kxe2 Bxf3+ 20.gxf3 Rc2 21.Rd1 Rxb2μ

16.Be3?



16.Qd4 Bc5 17.Qd3 d6 18.exd6 Qxd6 19.Kd1 Raf8©

16...d4!- + 17.Bxd4

17.Qxd4 Bxf3+ 18.gxf3 Qc2+- +

17...Raf8 18.Qb3 Rxf3 19.gxf3 Bxf3+ 20.Kd3

20.Ke3 Qb7 21.Bd3 Bxh1

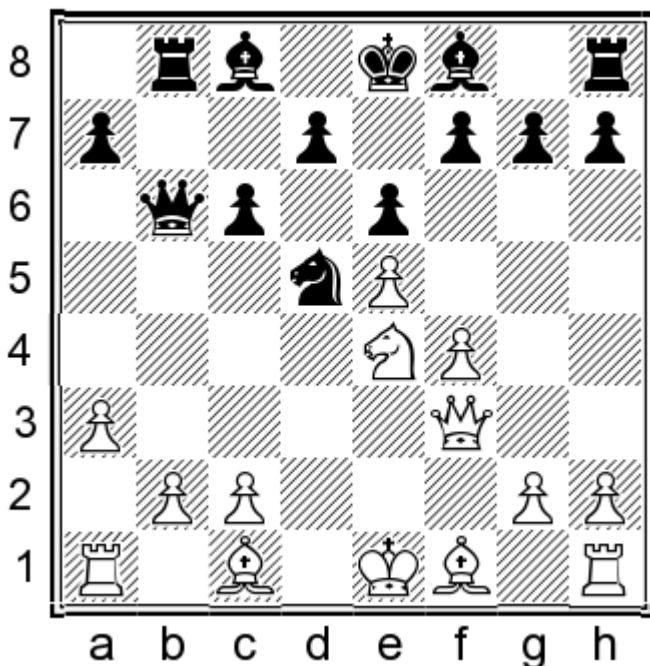
20...Qb7 21.Kc2 Bxh1 22.a3 Qe4+ 23.Bd3 Rc8+ 24.Kb1 Qxd4 25.axb4 Qxe5 0-1

45. B45

Aronian, Levon (2781) - Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2770)

chess24.com (Int.-m1/2-rapid) 148/45, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4 Qc7 9.f4 Rb8 10.a3 Qb6 11.Qf3



11.Bd3 - 145/44

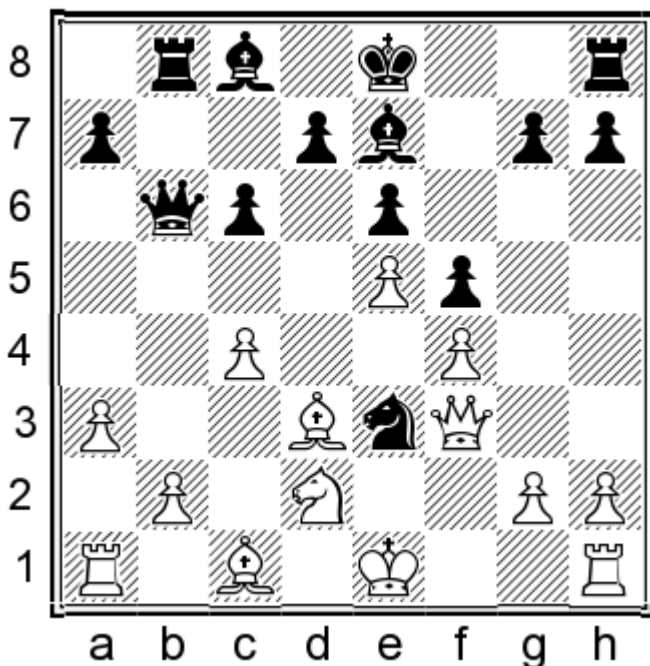
11...Be7!?N

11...Ba6; 11...c5; 11...a5 ∞

12.c4 f5 13.Nd2?

13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.exd6 Nf6 15.b4 Qd4 16.Rb1 Ne4 17.Qe3! Qxe3+
 (17...Qxd6 18.Bb2 Qe7 19.Bd3f) 18.Bxe3 Nxd6 19.Bd3 ∞; 13.Nf2 Nc7
 (13...Qa5+?! 14.Bd2 Bb4 15.O-O-O Bxd2+ 16.Rxd2 Ne7 17.Qh5+ g6 18.Qh6
 Ba6 19.Nh3! ±) 14.Be2 (14.b4 a5 15.Be3 Qa6 16.Bd4 (16.b5?! cxb5 17.cxb5
 Qb7 18.Qxb7 Bxb7³) 16...axb4 17.axb4 Bxb4+!? (17...Qb7 ∞) 18.Kd1 Qb7
 19.Ra7 c5 20.Rxb7 Bxb7 21.Qg3 cxd4 22.Qxg7 Rf8 ∞) 14...a5 15.O-O Na6
 16.Be3 (16.Rb1 a4 ∞) 16...Bc5 ∞ (16...Qxb2 ∞)

13...Ne3 14.Bd3



14...g5! 15.g3?

15.fxg5 Qd4μ; 15.Nf1 Nxf1 16.fxg5 Nxh2 17.Qh5+ Kd8 18.Qxh2 Qd4
19.Be2 Rxb2! 20.Bxb2 Qxb2 21.Rd1 Rg8μ

15...gxf4 16.gxf4 Rg8 17.Nf1 Ng2+ 18.Ke2

18.Kd1 Qd4 19.Ng3 Nxf4! 20.Bxf4 Rb3 21.Ke2 Rxb2+ 22.Kf1 Rg4 23.Bh6
Bc5- +

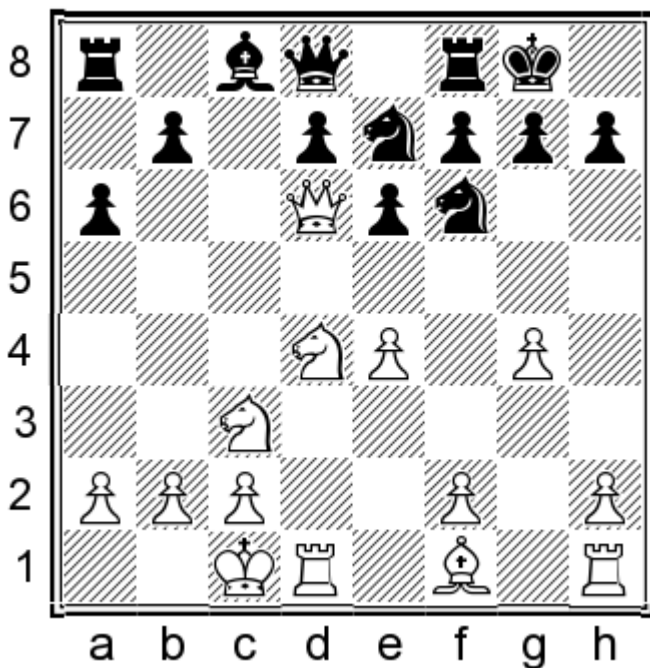
18...Qd4 19.Ng3 Rxb2+ 20.Bxb2 Qxb2+ 21.Kf1 Nh4 0-1

46. B45

Maghsoodloo, Parham (2676) - Idani, Pouya (2588)

Iran (ch) 148/46, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Ndb5 Bc5 7.Bf4 O-O
8.Bc7 Qe7 9.Bd6 Bxd6 10.Qxd6 Qd8 11.O-O-O a6 12.Nd4 Ne7 13.g4



13.Qg3 - 142/47

13...Nxg4N

13...b5 14.g5 Ne8 15.Qg3 b4 16.Nce2 Bb7 17.Bg2 Rc8 ∞

14.Rg1 Nf6 15.f4 Ne8 16.Qc5 Ng6

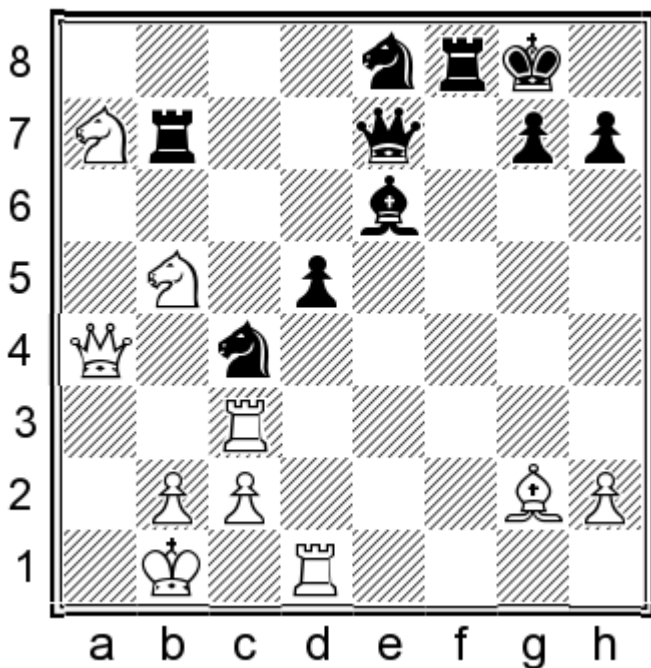
16...d6 17.Qg5

17.f5 d6 18.Qb4 Ne5 19.Bh3

19.fxe6 fxe6 20.Qb3 Qf6 21.Kb1 b5 22.Nd5!

19...Qh4 20.Rg3 b5 21.Kb1 Qe7 22.Qb3 Nc4 23.a4 Bd7 24.fxe6 fxe6

**25.axb5 axb5 26.Ncxb5 Rc8 27.Rc3 d5 28.Na7 Rc7 29.Ndb5 Rb7 30.exd5
exd5 31.Bg2 Be6 32.Qa4**



32...Rf4?

32...Ned6! 33.Nc6 (33.Rb3 Ra8- +) 33...Qg5 34.Nxd6 Nxb2 35.Qd4 Nxd1+ 36.Nxb7 Nxc3+ 37.Qxc3 Qxg2- +

33.Rxc4?

33.Nc6 Qd7 34.Rd4 Qxc6 35.Rxf4 Qxb5 36.Qxb5 Rxb5 37.b3 Ncd6μ

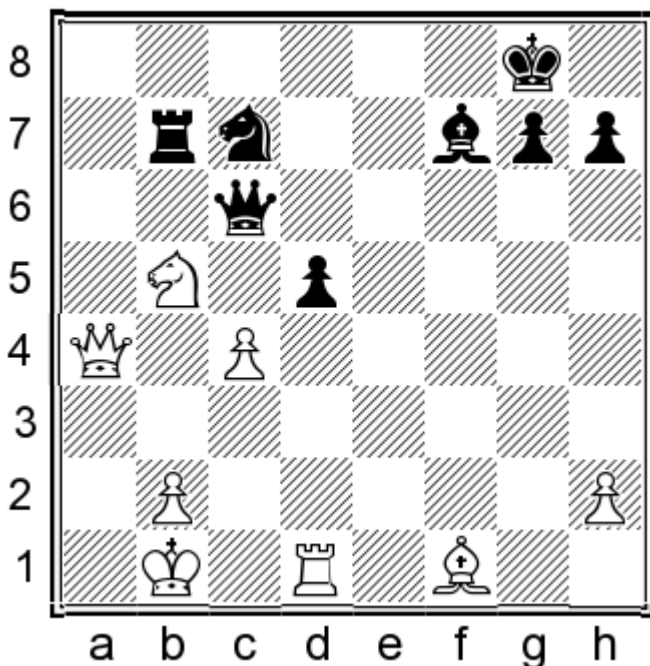
33...Rxc4 34.Qa6 Bf7

34...Qd7- +

35.Bf1

35.Nc6 Qd7 36.Nbd4 Rc7 37.Ne5 Ra4 38.Qd3 Qd8μ

35...Re4 36.Nc6 Qd7 37.Bh3 Ra4 38.Qxa4 Qxc6 39.Bf1 Nc7 40.c4



40...Bg6+??

40...Rb8! 41.Qa7 (41.cxd5 Bg6+ 42.Bd3 Nxd5 (42...Qxb5 43.Qxb5 Nxb5-+) 43.Bxg6 Qxg6+ 44.Kc1 Rc8+ 45.Nc3 Nxc3 46.bxc3 Rxc3+ 47.Kb2 Rc8-+ ; 41.Nc3 Qb6 42.Qc2 dxc4-+) 41...Na6 42.b3 dxc4 43.Qe7 cxb3 44.Rd8+ Rxd8 45.Qxd8+ Qe8 46.Qxe8+ Bxe8 47.Nd6 Bg6+ 48.Kb2 Nc5 49.Bc4+ Kf8μ

41.Bd3 dxc4

41...Nxb5 42.Qa8+ Kf7 43.cxb5 Bxd3+ 44.Rxd3 Qxb5 45.Rf3+ Kg6 46.Rg3+= ; 41...Bxd3+ 42.Rxd3 h6 43.Nc3 Qxa4 44.Nxa4 Rb4 45.Nc3 dxc4 46.Rd4 Ne6 47.Rh4 =

42.Bxg6 Qxg6+ 43.Ka1 h6 44.Qxc4+ Kh7 45.Na3 1/2-1/2

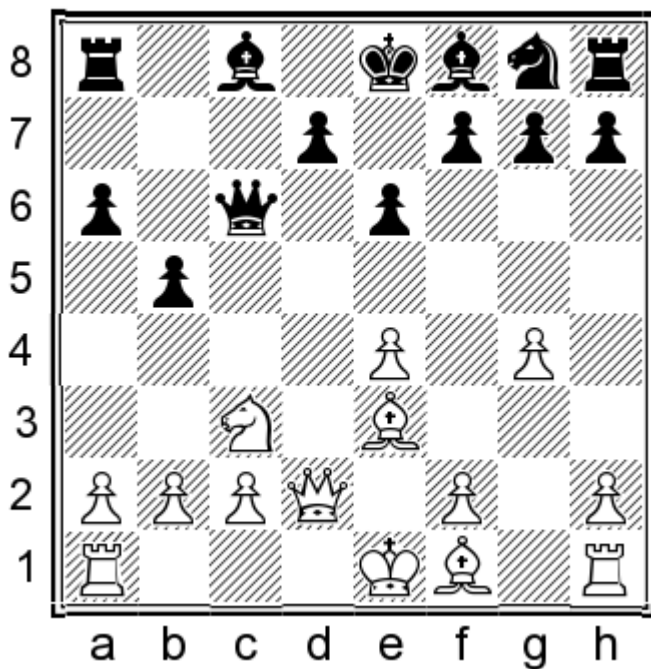
47. * B48

Predke, Alexandr (2690) - Perunovic, Milos (2567)
tornelo.com (Int.-m/1) 148/47, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 e6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.g4

7.Qd2 - 146/54

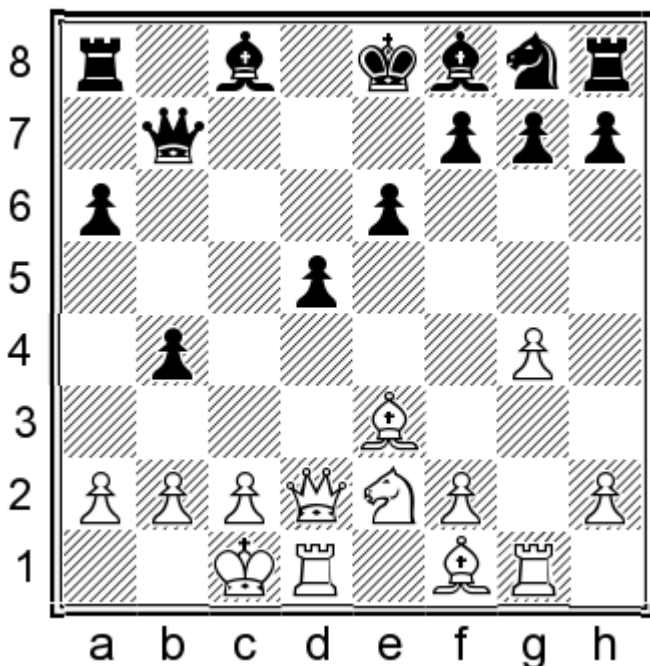
7...b5 8.Nxc6 Qxc6 9.Qd2



9.a3

9...Bc5!?N

9...b4 - 148/(47) 10.Ne2 Qxe4 11.Rg1 Qb7 12.O-O-O d5



13.g5 (13.Nf4©) 13...Ne7 14.Nf4 Bd7 15.Bg2© Grandelius,N (2670)-
Brunner,N (2418) tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(47) 2021

9...Bb7 10.O-O-O b4 11.Ne2 Nf6 12.f3 d5 13.g5 Nd7 14.Nd4 Qc7 15.f4!f;
9...h5!?

10.Bxc5 Qxc5 11.O-O-O Ne7 12.f4

12.h4!

12...O-O

12...b4 13.Na4 Qa5 14.b3 d5 15.f5! dxe4 16.Qd6 Ra7 17.fxe6 fxe6 (17...Bxe6
18.Bc4 Qc7 (18...Rd7 19.Qb8+ Rd8 20.Rxd8+ Qxd8 21.Qxb4 ±) 19.Bxe6
Qxd6 20.Rxd6 fxe6 21.Rxe6 ±) 18.Bc4 ±

13.Bg2 Ra7

13...Bb7!? 14.Qxd7 Nc6 15.Rhe1 (15.Qxb7? Ra7- +) 15...Qa7©

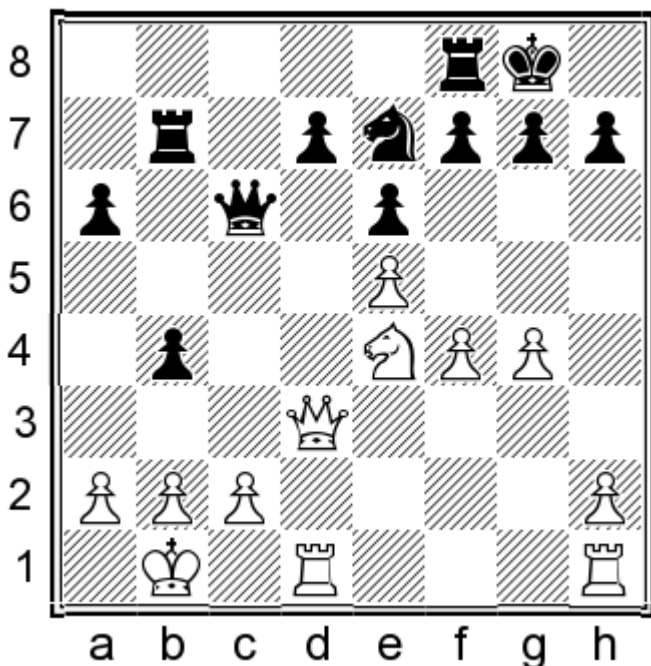
14.e5

14.Kb1 Bb7 ∞

14...Bb7 15.Bxb7

15.Ne4 Bxe4 16.Bxe4

15...Rxb7 16.Kb1 Qc6 17.Qd3 b4 18.Ne4



18...Nd5

18...Rb5! 19.h4 (19.Qxd7?! Qxe4 20.Qxe7 Rd5 21.Rhf1 Rc8 22.Rc1 Rd2μ)
19...Rd5 20.Qf3 (20.Qe3 Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1 Nd5 22.Qd2 a5 ∞) 20...Rc8 ∞

19.f5

19.Ng5 f5 20.exf6 Nxf6 ∞

19...Qb5

19...Rb5! 20.Rhf1 (20.fxe6 dxe6 21.Ng5 f5 22.exf6 Nxf6 ∞) 20...Ra5 21.f6
(21.fxe6 dxe6 22.Ng5 g6 ∞ 23.Qh3?! h5 24.gxh5? Nc3+ 25.bxc3 bxc3- +)
21...Qa4 22.fxg7 Rc8 23.Rxf7 Qxa2+ 24.Kc1 Qa1+ 25.Kd2 Qxb2 26.Qf3
Qd4+ (26...Rxc2+?? 27.Ke1 Re2+ 28.Kf1 + -) 27.Ke1 Qg1+ 28.Kd2 Qd4+ =

20.Nd6 Qxd3 21.Rxd3 Rc7 22.g5! Rc5 23.f6 Nf4 24.Re3

24.Rd4 Ng6 25.Rxb4 Rxe5 ∞

24...Ng6 25.Rhe1 Rd5

25...Rc6 26.Rd3 Rc5 27.Rde3 Rc6 =

26.Nc4 h6! 27.fxg7

27.h4 Nxh4 28.gxh6 (28.fxg7 Kxg7 29.gxh6+ Kh7 ∞) 28...gxf6 29.exf6 Kh7
30.Rg3 Ng6 ∞

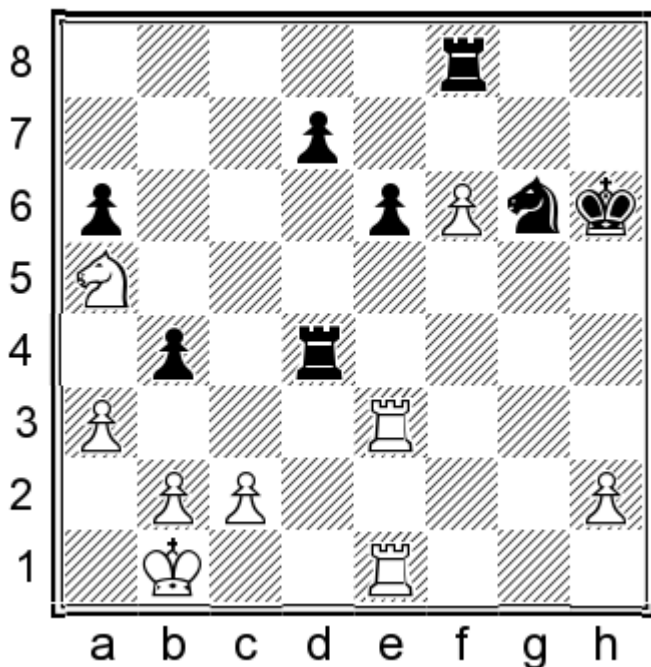
27...Kxg7 28.gxh6+ Kxh6 29.a3 Rd4 30.Na5?!

30.b3 bxa3 31.Ka2 Kg7 ∞

30...f6?!

30...bxa3 31.Rxa3 Rb8 32.Rc3 (32.Nb3 Rdb4 33.Rxa6 R8b5³) 32...Kg7³

31.exf6



31...Rxf6?

31...bxa3 32.Rxa3 Rxf6 33.Nb3 Rd5 34.Rxa6 Rf2 35.Rh1 Nh4©

32.Nb3 Rc4 33.axb4 Rxb4 34.Rd3 d5 35.Nc5 Nf4 36.Rde3 a5

36...Rd4 37.Nxe6 Nxe6 38.Rxe6 Kg6 $\pm$

37.Nxe6 d4 38.Re4 d3

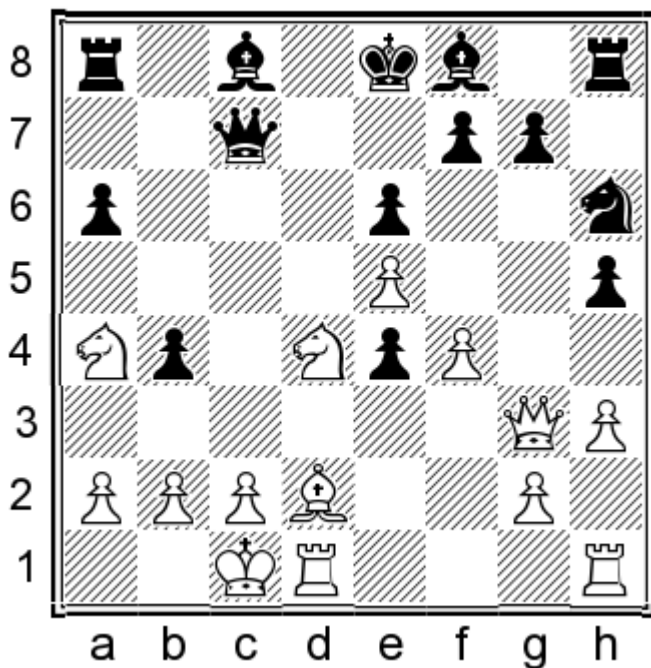
38...Ng2 39.Rg1 d3 40.Rxb4 (40.cxd3 Rxe4 41.dxe4 Rxe6 42.Rxg2 Rxe4 43.Ka2 $\pm$) 40...dxc2+ 41.Kxc2 Rf2+ 42.Kb3 axb4 43.Nc5 $\pm$

39.Rxb4 axb4 40.Nxf4 dxc2+ 41.Kxc2 Rxf4 42.Rg1 Kh5

42...Rf2+ 43.Kb3 Rxh2 44.Rg4 $+-$

43.Kb3 Re4 44.h3 Rh4 45.Rg3 Re4 46.Ka4 1-0

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qf3 Ne5
 8.Qg3 b5 9.O-O-O Nf6 10.f4 Neg4 11.Bd2 b4 12.Na4 h5 13.Bd3 d5 14.e5
 Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.h3 Nh6

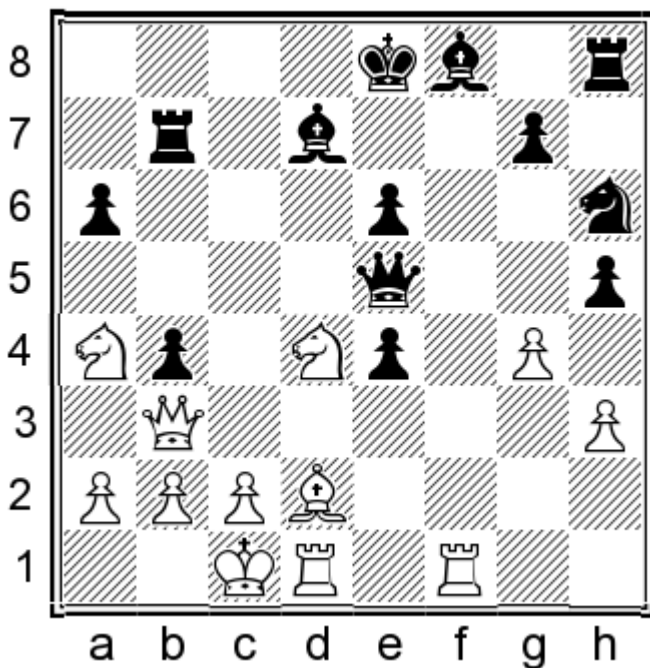


17.Qb3N

17.Bxb4 - 141/50

17...Bd7

17...Rb8!? 18.g4 Bd7 19.f5 Qxe5 (19...Qa5? 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Nc6! +-)
 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Rhf1 (21.Ne2 Qb5 22.Bf4 Rb7 23.Rxd7 Qxd7 24.Qc4 Kf7³)
 21...Rb7

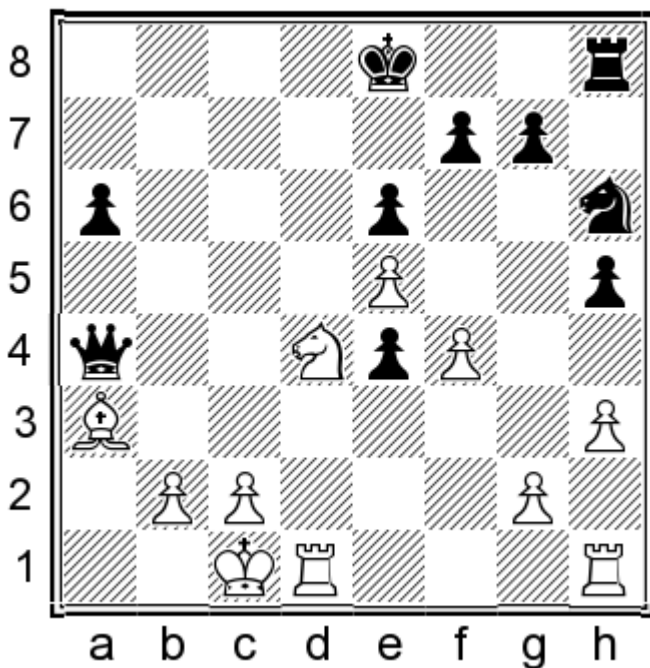


22.c4! (22.Bf4?! Qd5!³ (22...Qa5? 23.Qe3 Qxa4 24.Qxe4 + -)) 22...Qxd4
23.Bxh6 Qe5 24.Be3 ∞

18.Bxb4 Rb8 19.Bxf8

19.Bd6?? Rxb3 20.Bxc7 Rb7- +

19...Rxb3 20.Bd6 Qa5 21.axb3 Bxa4 22.bxa4 Qxa4 23.Ba3



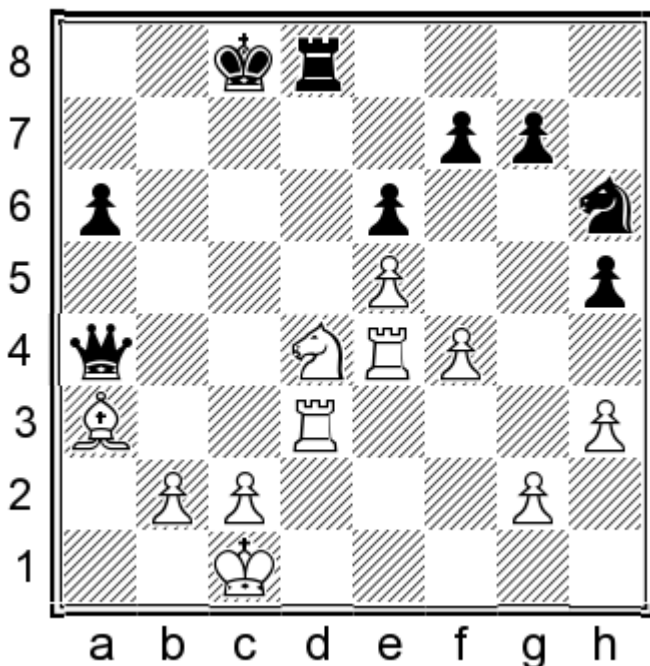
23...Kd7?

23...e3! 24.Rhe1 (24.g4?! Ng8! 25.f5 Ne7 26.fxe6 fxe6µ; 24.Rd3 f6! 25.Nxe6 Kf7 26.Nc5 Qc6 27.e6+ Kg6∞) 24...Nf5 25.Nxf5 (25.c3 Rh6 26.Nxf5 exf5 27.Rd4 Qc6∞) 25...exf5 26.Rxe3 (26.g3 Qe4 27.Rd3 (27.h4 Rh6 28.Rd3 Rc6 29.Rxe3 Qg2∞) 27...e2 28.Kd2 h4 29.Rxe2 Qa8∞) 26...Qxf4 27.Bc5 Rh6 28.g3 Qc4∞

24.Rhe1 Kc8 25.Rxe4 Rd8

¹25...Kb8 26.Bd6+ Ka8 27.Kb1 ±

26.Rd3



26...Nf5?

26...Rd5 27.Kb1 Nf5 (27...h4 28.Rc3+ Kb7 29.Rc7+ Kb6 30.Bc5+ Kxc7 31.Nxe6+ fxe6 32.Bd6+ Kb6 33.Rxa4±) 28.Rc3+ Kb7 29.Nxf5 Rd1+ 30.Ka2 Qxe4 31.Nd6+ Rxd6 32.exd6 Qd5+ 33.b3±

27.Nxe6! 1-0

49. B48

Nakamura, Hikaru (2736) - Pichot, Alan (2630)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/49, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qf3 Ne5 8.Qg3 b5 9.O-O-O Nf6 10.f4 Neg4 11.Bg1 h5 12.e5 b4 13.Na4 Nd5 14.h3 Nh6 15.f5

15.Bd3 - 131/54

15...Bb7 16.Bd3 Be7

16...h4?! 17.Qxh4 Qxe5 18.Be4 Be7 19.Qe1±

17.Kb1

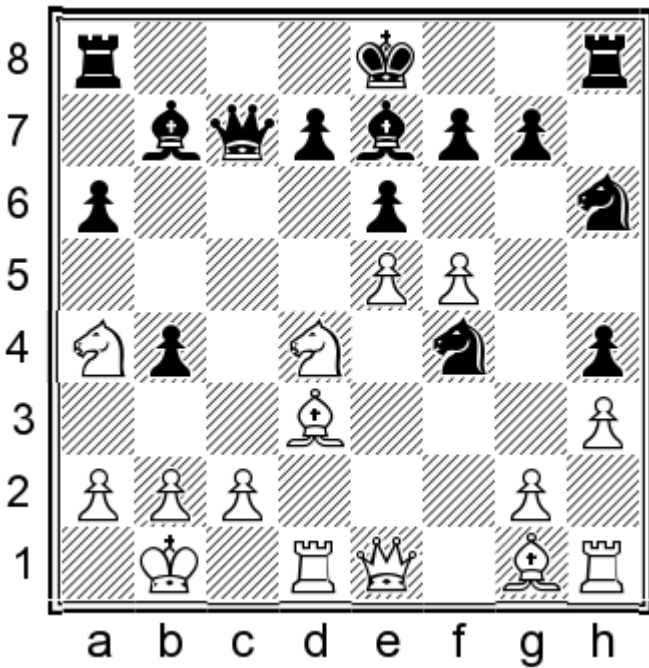
17.Qxg7 Rg8 18.Qh7 Qxe5 19.fxe6 dxe6 20.Kb1 Rh8 (20...Nf4 21.Bh2 Rh8 22.Bxf4 Qxd4 23.Be3 Qe5 24.Bf4=) 21.Nf3 Qf6 22.Qe4 Nc3+ 23.Nxc3 Bxe4 24.Nxe4 Qf4 (24...Qg7? 25.Bd4 Qxg2 (25...f6 26.Nfg5±) 26.Nfd2±)

25.Bh2 Qe3 26.Bg1 =

17...h4 18.Qe1

18.Qxg7 O-O-O 19.f6 Rdg8 20.Qxh8 Rxh8 21.fxe7 Nxe7 22.Nb3 ∞

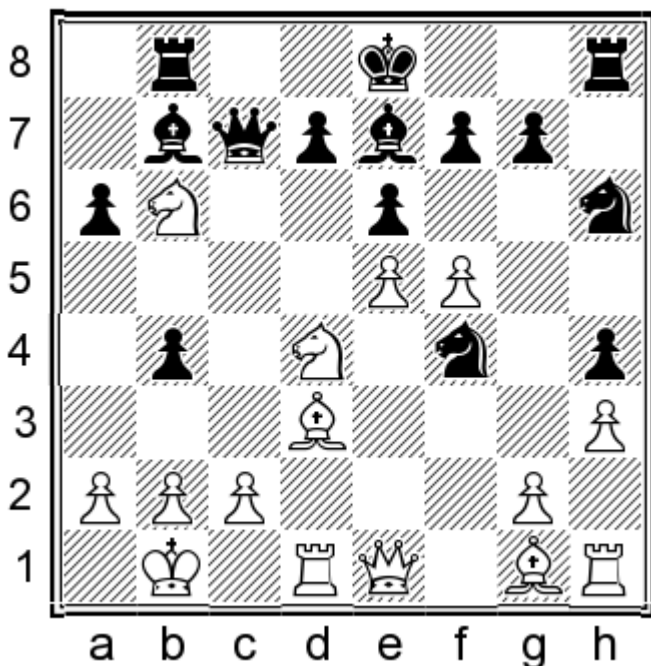
18...Nf4



18...Rc8 19.g4! Qa5 20.b3 Nc3+ 21.Nxc3 bxc3 22.Be3 Bxh1 23.Qxh1f

19.Bh2N

19.Nb6 Rd8 (19...Rb8



20.Bf1! Bxg2 (20...Nxc2 21.Bxc2 Bxc2 22.Rh2 Bb7 23.Rhd2 ±) 21.Bxc2
 Nxc2 22.Qd2 Rxb6 23.Nxe6! Rxe6 24.fxe6 dxe6 25.Bb6! Qb7 26.Bc5 Nf5
 27.Rhg1 Nge3 (27...Nf4 28.Bxe7 Nd5 29.Bg5 O-O 30.Rde1 ±) 28.Bxe3 ±)
 20.Nc4 Nxd3 21.cxd3 Bd5 22.Rc1 Bxc4 23.Rxc4 Qa5 24.fxe6 fxe6 ∞

19...Nxd3 20.Rxd3 Qa5 21.fxe6

21.f6 gxf6 22.exf6 Bxf6 23.Rf1 Be7 24.b3 Rc8 25.Be5 Rg8 26.Bf6 Bf8 ∞

21...fxe6

21...dxe6 22.b3 Nf5 23.Nb2 Rc8 ∞

22.b3 O-O 23.Rg1 Rac8 24.g3 Qc7 25.gxh4 Nf5 26.Qe2 Rf7

26...Nxb4 27.Rg4 Nf5 28.Bf4 a5 ∞

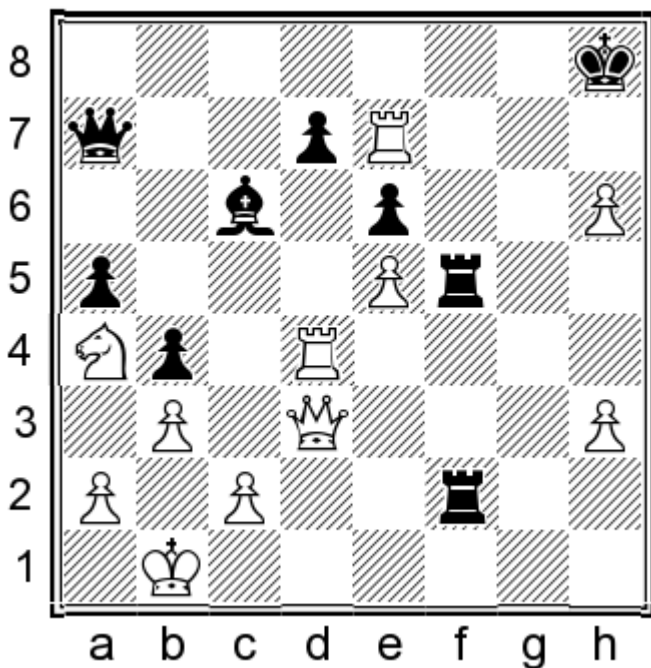
27.Bg3

27.h5 Kh8 28.Bf4 Bc5! 29.Nxc5 Qxc5 30.Rgd1 Ne7 ∞

27...a5 28.Nxf5 Rxf5 29.Rd4 Rcf8 30.h5 Bc6 31.h6 Qa7 32.Bf2!

32.hxg7 Qxd4 33.gxf8=Q+ Kxf8 34.Rd1 Qe4 ∞

32...Rxf2 33.Rxg7+ Kh8 34.Qd3 R8f5 35.Rxe7



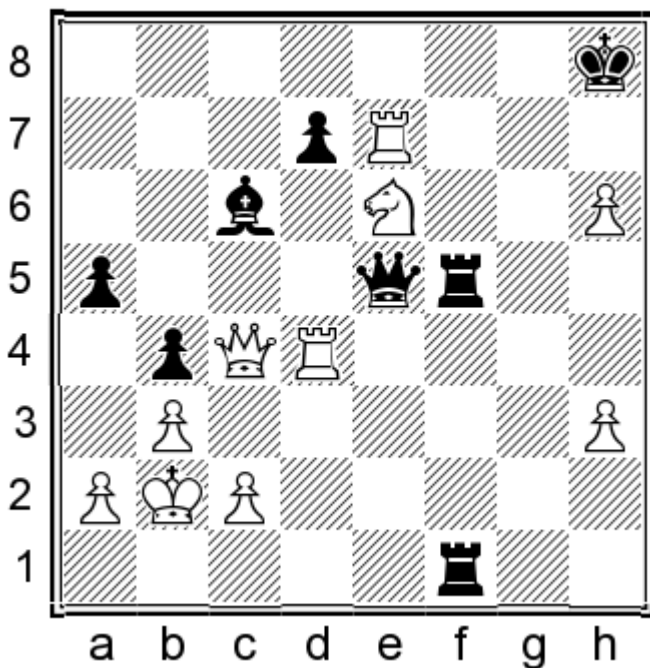
35...R2f3?

35...Qb8! 36.Rxe6 (36.Rg4 Rf1+ 37.Kb2 Qxe5+ 38.Qd4 Qxd4+ 39.Rxd4 Rh1 40.a3 Rff1 41.axb4 axb4 42.Rxb4 Rb1+ 43.Kc3 Rxh3+= ; 36.Nc5 R2f3 37.Qd2 Rf2=) 36...R2f3 37.Qd2 Bxa4 38.Red6 (38.bxa4? b3- +) 38...Rf1+ 39.Kb2 R5f2 40.Qd3 (40.Qg5?? Rxc2+! 41.Kxc2 Qc7+- +) 40...Bb5 41.Qg3 Qg8 42.Qxg8+ Kxg8 43.Rb6 a4! 44.Rxb4 Bd3 45.Rg4+ Kh8 46.Rg7 Rxc2+ 47.Ka3 =

36.Qc4 Rf1+ 37.Kb2 Qb8 38.Nc5?

38.Qc5 Qxe5 39.Qxe5+ Rxe5 40.a3 Bxa4 41.bxa4 bxa3+ 42.Kxa3 d5 43.Rg4 ±

38...Qxe5 39.Nxe6



39.Nxd7 Qe1 40.Re8+ Kh7 41.Re7+ Kh8 =

39...dxe6??

39...Qf6! 40.Re8+ Kh7 41.h4! (41.Nf8+ Kxh6- +) 41...a4! (41...dxe6?
42.Rxe6 Qh8 43.Rxc6 R1f4 44.Rd6 + -) 42.bxa4 R1f2 43.Ng5+ Kxh6 44.Qd3
Bxa4 45.Rc8 Bc6 ∞

40.Rxe6 Qc7

40...a4 41.bxa4 Qg3 42.Rd8+ Rf8 43.Rxf8+ Rxf8 44.Rxc6 Qa3+ (44...Qe5+
45.c3 + -) 45.Kb1 + -

41.Qxc6 Qxc6 42.Rxc6 Rh1 43.Rd8+ Kh7 44.Rd7+ 1-0

50. B49

Kaasen, Tor Fredrik (2397) - Martirosyan, Haik M (2620)
Beograd 148/50, 2021

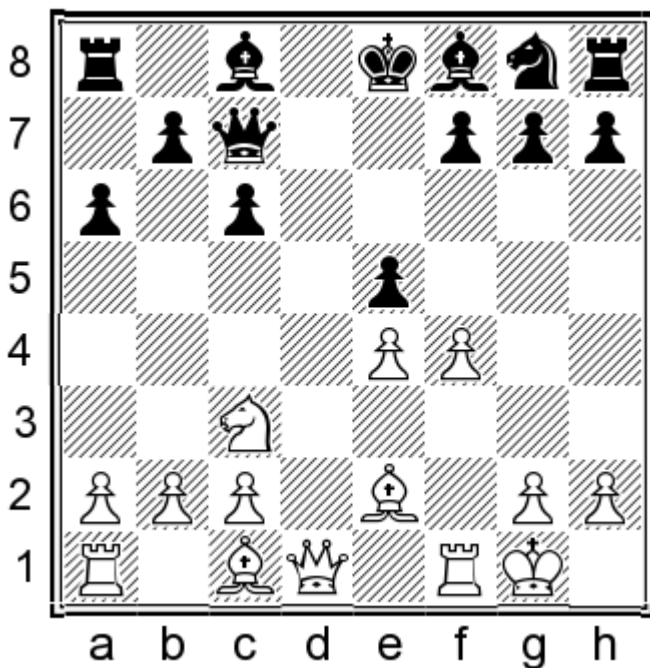
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7.Nxc6 dxc6

7...Qxc6 - 31/245

8.O-O e5

8...b5!?

9.f4



9...Bc5+!?N

9...Bd6

10.Kh1 Bd4 11.Bf3

11.Qe1!? Nf6 12.Qg3 Kf8 13.Bf3 h5 14.f5 h4 15.Qe1²

11...Nf6 12.Ne2

12.f5 Bxc3!? 13.bxc3 h6 14.Qe1 c5 15.Qg3 Kf8 16.c4 Bd7 17.Bb2 Re8 ∞

12...Bc5 13.f5

13.fxe5 Ng4 ∞ (13...Qxe5 14.Bf4 Qxb2 15.e5 Ng4 16.Ng3 Nf2+ 17.Rxf2 Bxf2 18.Ne4©)

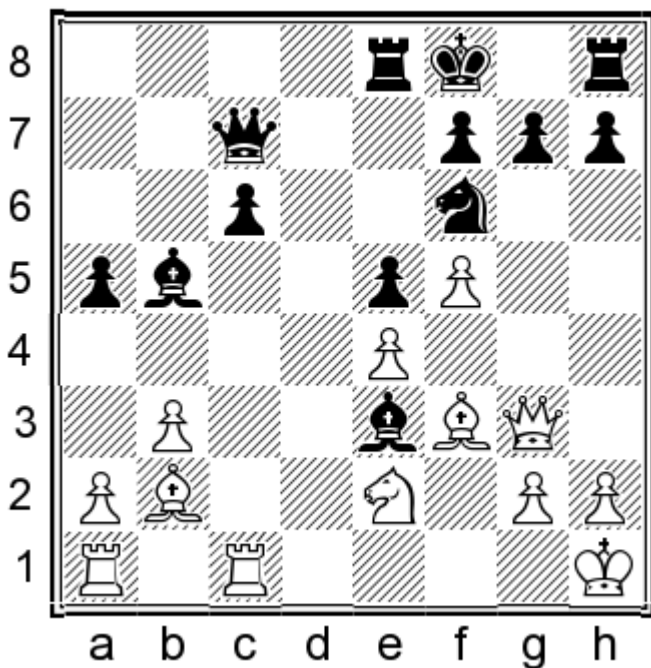
13...b6 14.Qe1 a5 15.Qg3 Kf8 16.b3

16.Bg5 Ba6 17.Rfd1 h6 18.Bxf6 gxf6 ∞

16...Ba6 17.c4 b5

17...Re8 18.Bb2 h5 ∞

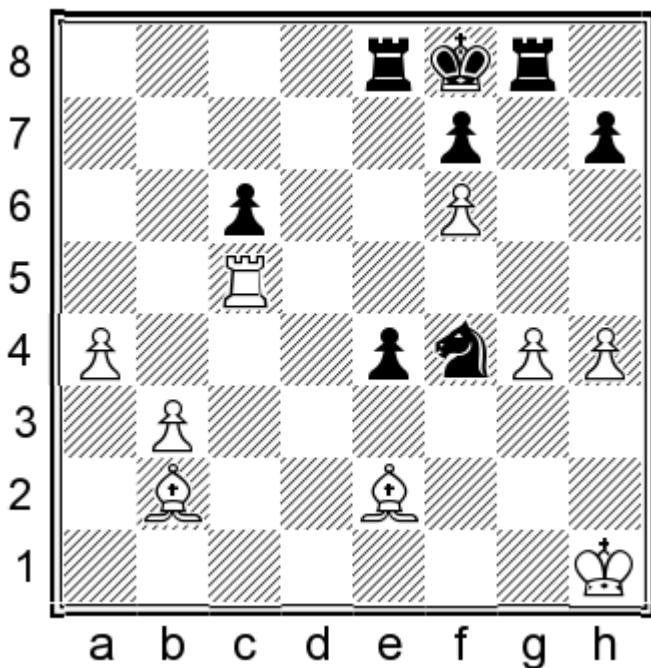
18.cxb5 Bxb5 19.Bb2 Re8 20.Rfc1 Be3



21.Nd4!?

21.Rc2 Bd3 (21...h5!?) 22.Rc3 Rd8 23.h3 h5 24.Qe1 Ng4 25.Bxg4 hxg4
 26.Rd1 Bxe4 27.Rxd8+ Qxd8 28.Rxe3 Rxh3+ 29.Rxh3 gxh3 30.Kg1 f6
 31.Nf4 Bxf5 32.Nxh3 Qd3²

**21...Bxc1 22.Rxc1 Qb6 23.Nxb5 Qxb5 24.a4 Qb8 25.h4 Qd6 26.Qe1 g6
 27.Qxa5 gxf5 28.exf5 e4 29.Be2 Rg8 30.Qc5 Qxc5 31.Rxc5 Nd5 32.Rxc6
 32.g4 Nf4 33.f6!**



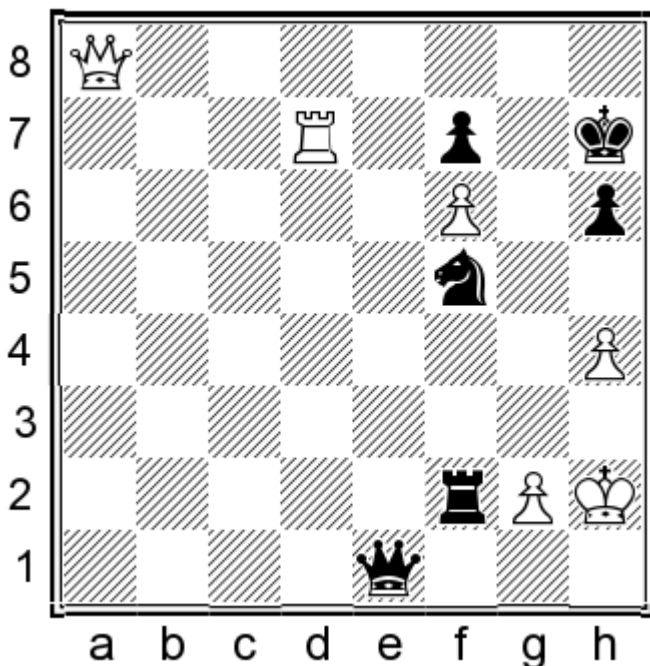
33...Ra8! 34.Ba3 Ke8 35.Re5+ Kd8 36.Bc4 Rxc4 37.Bxf7 Kc7∞

32...Rg3 33.Bc4

33.Bc1! Kg8 34.Bh6 Rxb3 35.Bc4 Rb1+ 36.Kh2 e3 37.a5 Nc3 38.f6 e2
39.Bxe2 Nxe2 40.Rc4 Kh8 41.Bg7+ Kg8 42.Bh6 Rb3 43.Rg4+ Kh8 44.Bg7+
Kg8 45.Bh6+=

33...Ne3 34.Bb5 Rd8 35.Ba3+ Kg8 36.Rd6 Rc8 37.Rc6?

37.f6 h6 38.a5 Nf5 39.Rd1 Rxb3 40.Bd7 Rd8 41.Be7 Rxd7 42.Rxd7 Rb1+
43.Kh2 e3 44.Bc5 e2 45.Bf2 Rd1! (45...Rf1 46.a6 Rxf2 47.a7 e1=Q 48.a8=Q+
Kh7

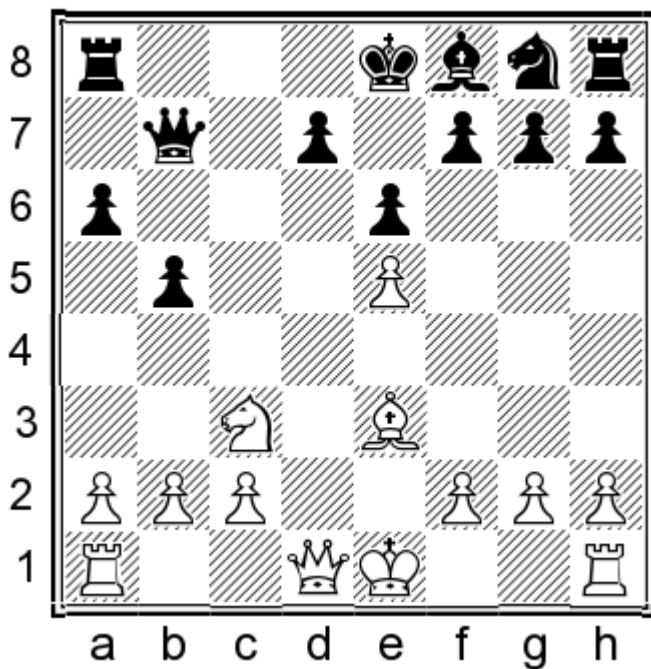


49.Qd5!! Rxd5 50.Qxg2 Qxh4+ 51.Kg1 Qe1+ 52.Kh2 Qh4+ 53.Kg1 Qe1+=) 46.Rb7 Rf1 47.a6 Rxf2 48.a7 e1=Q 49.a8=Q+ Kh7 50.Rxf7+ Kg6 51.Qg8+ Kh5 52.Rh7 Qe3 53.Qg5+ Qxg5 54.hxg5 Kxg5 55.f7 Nd6- +
37...Rxc6 38.Bxc6 Ng4 39.Be7 Rc3 0-1

51. * B49

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2792)
 chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/51, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Be2 b5
 8.Nxc6 Qxc6 9.e5 Bb7 10.Bf3 Qc7 11.Bxb7 Qxb7



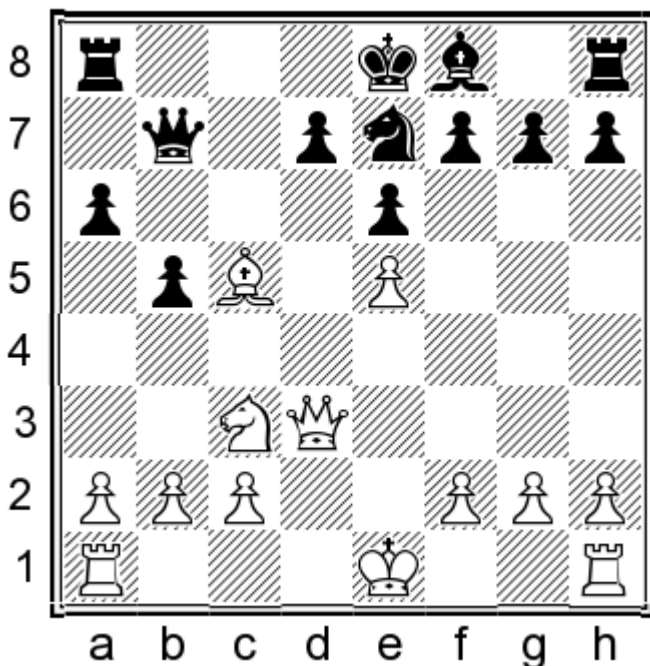
12.Qd3!?

12.O-O Rc8 13.Qd3 f5 ∞ - 126/52

12...Ne7

12...Bb4 13.O-O Bxc3 14.Qxc3 Ne7 15.Bc5! Rc8

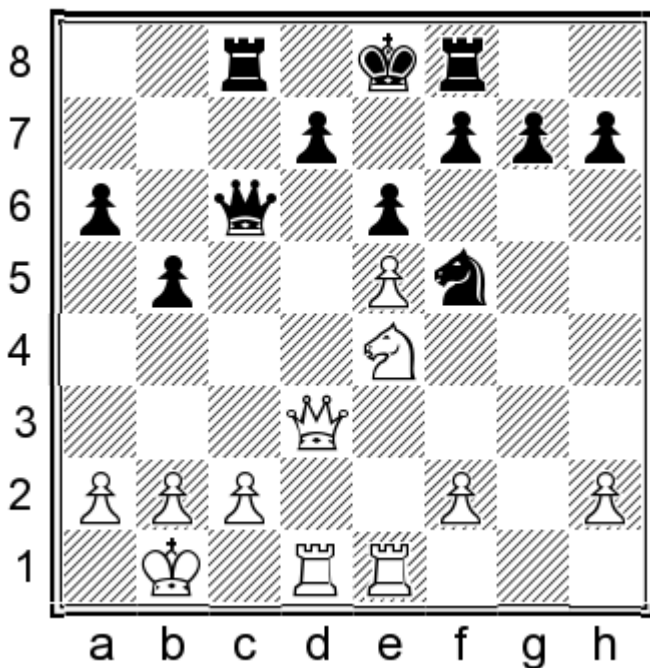
13.Bc5



13...Qxg2!?N

13...Ng6 14.Bxf8 Qxg2 15.O-O-O Kxf8 ∞; 13...Nd5! 14.Bxf8 Nxc3 15.Bxg7 (15.Qxc3 Qe4+! 16.Kd2 Rxf8 ∞; 15.bxc3 Qxg2 16.O-O-O Kxf8 17.Qxd7 g6 ∞; 15.f3 Rxf8 16.Qxc3 Rc8 17.Qd3 Rc5 ∞) 15...Qxg2 16.Rf1 Rg8! 17.bxc3 (17.Bf6 Qe4+ 18.Kd2 Qxd3+ 19.cxd3 Nd5 20.Bh4 d6 ∞; 17.Qxc3 Qe4+! 18.Kd2 Rxg7 ∞) 17...Qxg7 18.O-O-O (18.f4 Qg6 ∞) 18...Qxe5 19.Qxd7+ Kf8 ∞

14.O-O-O Qc6 15.Ne4 Nf5 16.Bxf8 Rxf8 17.Rhe1 Rc8 18.Kb1



18...f6?

18...Rh8!? 19.Rd2 (19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 h5 21.Rf1 Rh6 ∞) 19...h5 20.Red1 Rc7 21.Qe2 Rh6 ∞

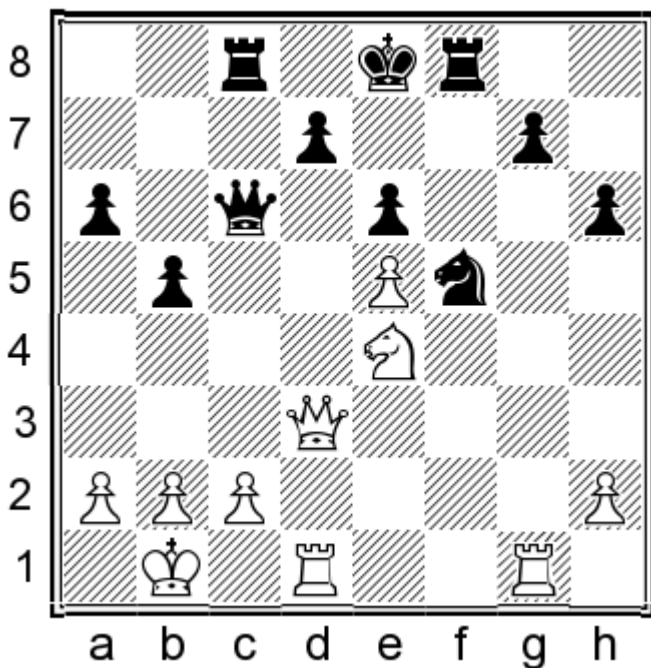
19.f4?

19.exf6 gxf6 20.Nc5! Rf7 (20...Qd6? 21.Nxd7! Qxd3 22.Rxd3 Rf7 23.Rxe6+ +-) 21.Nxe6 dxe6 22.Qxf5 Ke7 23.a3 $\pm$

19...fxe5

19...Rf7 ∞

20.fxe5 h6 21.Rg1



21.Rf1 Rf7 22.Rxf5 Rxf5 23.Nd6+ Ke7 24.Nxf5+ exf5 25.Qxf5 Rf8 26.Qg4 g5 ∞

21...Qd5??

21...Rf7 22.Nd6+ Nxd6 23.exd6 Qf3! 24.Qxf3 (24.Qh7 Qf6 ∞) 24...Rxf3 25.Rxg7 Rc5 26.Re7+ Kd8 ∞

22.Nd6+ Ke7

22...Nxd6 23.Qg6+ +-

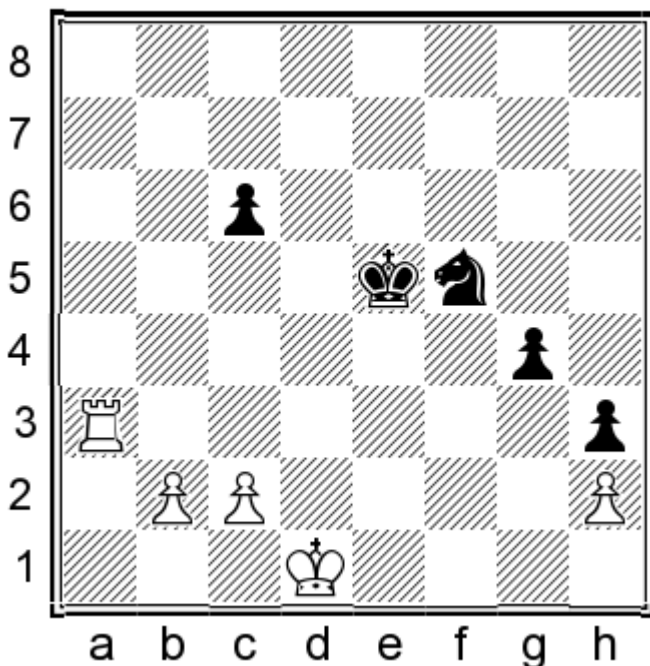
23.Nxc8+ Rxc8 24.Qxd5 exd5 25.Rxd5 Ke6 26.Rd3 g5 27.a4 bxa4 28.Rg4 Rc6 29.Rxa4 h5 30.Rda3

30.Rh3! h4 (30...Ng7 31.Rha3 Kxe5 32.Ra5+ d5 33.Rxa6 +-; 30...Nh4 31.Ra5 +-) 31.Rg4 +-

30...g4 31.Kc1 Kxe5 32.Rxa6 h4 33.Rxc6 dxc6 34.Kd1

34.Ra4 Ne3 35.Kd2 Nf1+ 36.Ke2 Nxh2 37.Kf2 +-

34...h3



35.Ke2??

35.Ra8! Nd4 36.Re8+ Kf4 37.Ke1 Nxc2+ (37...Nf3+ 38.Kf2 Nxb2 39.Rf8+ Kg5 (39...Ke4 40.Kg3 Nf3 41.Kxg4 h2 42.Rh8 Ne5+ 43.Kg3 +-) 40.Kg3 Nf3 41.c3 +-; 37...Kf3 38.Kf1 Nxc2 39.Rf8+ Ke3 40.Ra8 Kf3 41.Kg1 +-) 38.Kf2 Nd4 39.Ra8! Nf3 (39...c5 40.Ra4 +-) 40.Ra4+ Kg5 41.Kg3 Ne5 42.Ra5 Kf5 43.Rxe5+! Kxe5 44.Kxg4 +- -

35...g3! = 36.Kf3

36.Ra1 gxh2 37.Kf2 Kf4 38.Rh1 Ne3 =

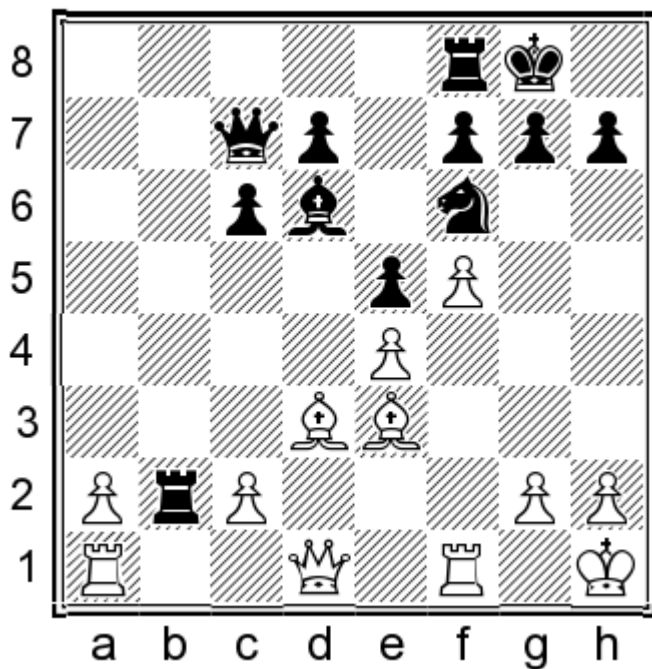
36...gxh2 37.Ra1 Nd4+ 38.Kg3 Nxc2 39.Rc1 Nb4 40.Kxh2 Kd4 41.b3 c5 42.Kxh3 Nc6 43.Rc4+ Kd5 44.Kg2 Ne5 45.Rc1 c4 46.bxc4+ Nxc4 47.Rxc4 Kxc4 1/2-1/2

52. B49

Petrov, Martin (2524) - Ivanisevic, Ivan (2608)

tornelo.com (Int.-m/1) 148/52, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7.O-O Nf6 8.Be3 Bb4 9.Na4 O-O 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Nb6 Rb8 12.Nxc8 Rfxc8 13.Bxa6 Rf8 14.Bd3 Bd6 15.f4 e5 16.f5 Rxb2 17.Kh1

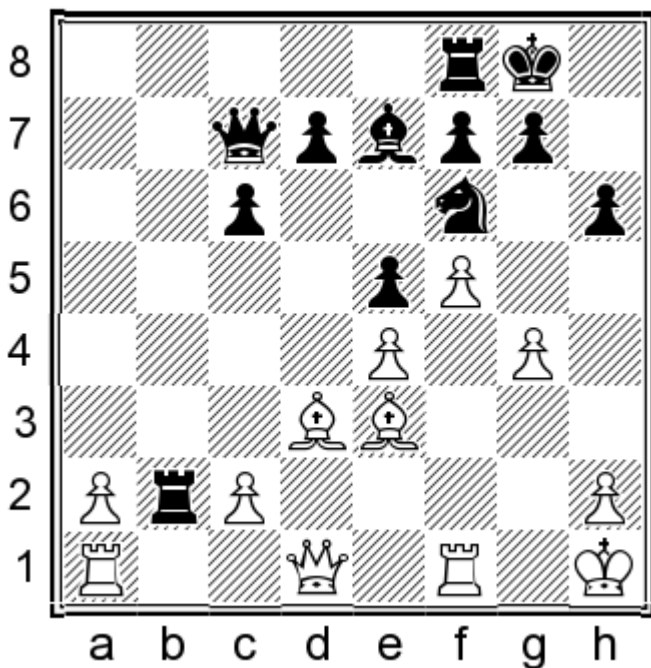


17.g4 - 102/(157)

17...Be7N

17...Qa5 18.a4²; 17...Ra8!?

18.g4 h6



19.h4!?

19.Bxh6!? gxh6 20.Qc1 Qb6 21.Qxh6 Nh7 22.f6 (22.g5!? Bxg5 23.Rg1 f6 24.h4 Rf7 25.hxg5 Nxc5 26.Rxc5+ fxg5 27.Kg2 Rb1 =) 22...Bxf6 23.Rxf6 Nxf6 24.Qg5+ Kh7 25.Qf5+=; 19.Bc1!? Rb7 20.Rg1 Bc5 (20...d5 21.g5 hxg5 22.Bxg5→) 21.g5 hxg5 22.Bxg5 Nxe4! (22...Bxg1? 23.Bxf6+-; 22...Qd6 23.Ba6!±) 23.Bxe4 f6 24.Bd2 d5 25.Bd3 Bxg1 26.Qxg1²

19...d5 20.g5 Nxe4 21.Bxe4?

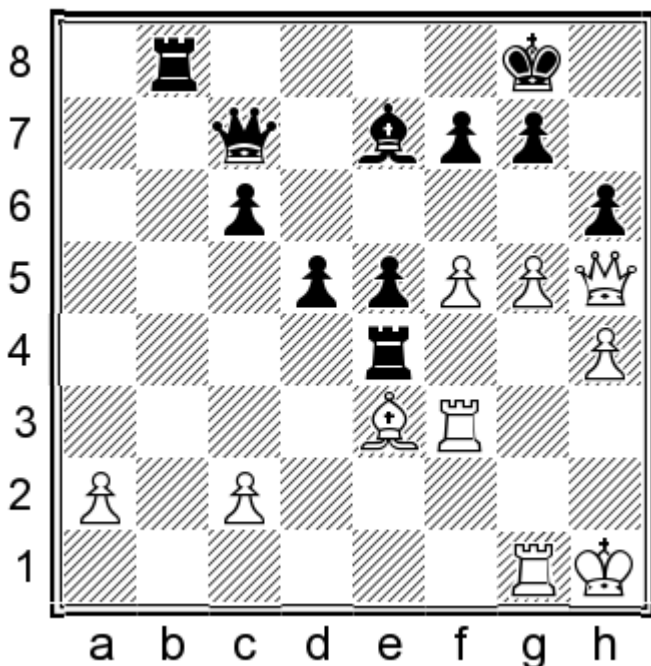
21.Rg1! Rb4 22.c4! ∞

21...Rb4! 22.Qh5!

22.Bg2 Rxh4+ 23.Kg1 e4 24.Rf2 Qg3 25.Qd2 hxg5-+; 22.f6 Rxe4 23.fxe7 Rxh4+ 24.Kg2 Qxe7μ

22...Rxe4 23.Rf3 Ra8?

23...Rb8! 24.Bf2 (24.Rg1



24...Qd6! 25.Bf2 (25.f6?? g6- +) 25...g6 26.fxg6 fxg6 27.Qxh6 Qe6μ)
 24...Qd6 25.Rg1 g6! 26.fxg6 fxg6 27.Qxh6 Qe6 28.h5 Bf8 29.Qxg6+ Qxg6
 30.hxg6 Rc4μ

24.Bf2 Raa4?

24...Qc8™ 25.gxh6 (25.Rg1 Raa4∞) 25...Raa4 26.Rg1 Rxh4+ 27.Bxh4
 Rxh4+ 28.Rh3 Rxh5 29.Rxh5 Bg5! 30.Rhxg5 g6∞

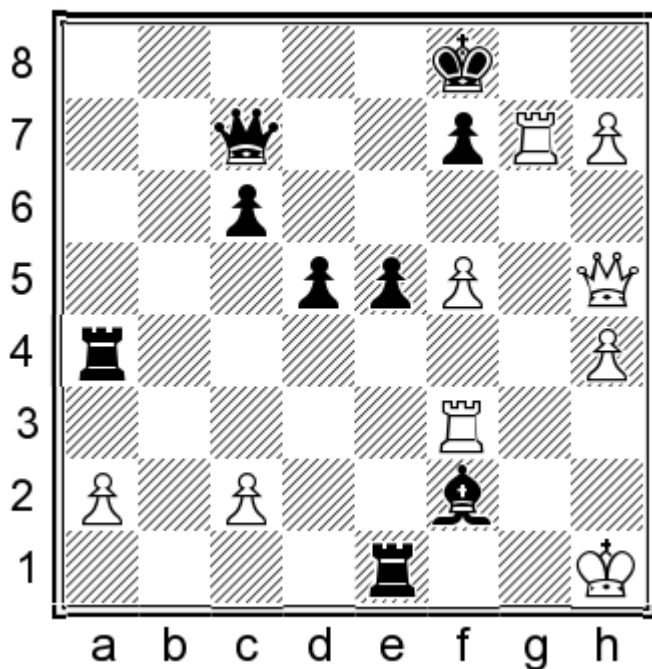
25.Rg1?

25.f6! Bf8 (25...Bc5 26.gxh6 g6 27.h7+ Kh8 28.Qh6+ -) 26.fxg7 Bxg7
 27.gxh6 Qe7 28.Kg2! (28.Rg1 Rxh4+ 29.Bxh4 Rxh4+ 30.Rh3 Rxh5 31.Rxh5
 Qa3 32.Rxg7+ Kh8 =) 28...Rxh4 (28...Rg4+ 29.Rg3 Rxg3+ 30.Bxg3 Bf6
 31.Rb1 Ra8 32.Rf1+ -) 29.Bxh4 Rxh4 30.Rxf7! Qxf7 (30...Rxh5 31.Rxe7
 Rxh6 32.a4+ -) 31.h7+ Kf8 32.Qxh4+ -

25...Bc5! 26.gxh6 Bxf2 27.Rxg7+ Kf8??†

27...Kh8 28.Kg2 Rxh4 (28...Bxh4 29.h7 Ra8 30.Ra3! Re2+ (30...Rb8
 31.Qh6+ -) 31.Qxe2 Rxa3 32.Qh5 Ra8 33.Qg4 Qd8 34.Kf1 Bf6 35.Rg8+
 Kxh7 36.Rxd8 Rxd8+ -) 29.Qg5 Rag4+ 30.Qxg4 Rxg4+ 31.Rxg4 Bc5
 32.Rfg3 Qb8! (32...Qd8?? 33.h7+ -) 33.f6 (33.h7 Qb1 34.Rg8+ Kxh7
 35.R3g7+ Kh6 36.Rg4 Qxc2+ 37.Kh3 Qd3+ 38.Kg2 =) 33...Qd8 34.h7 Qxf6
 35.Rh3 Qf2+ 36.Kh1 Qe1+ 37.Kh2 Qf2+ 38.Kh1 =

28.h7 Re1+



28...Rxh4+ 29.Rh3 Rxh5 30.Rxh5 +-

29.Kg2??

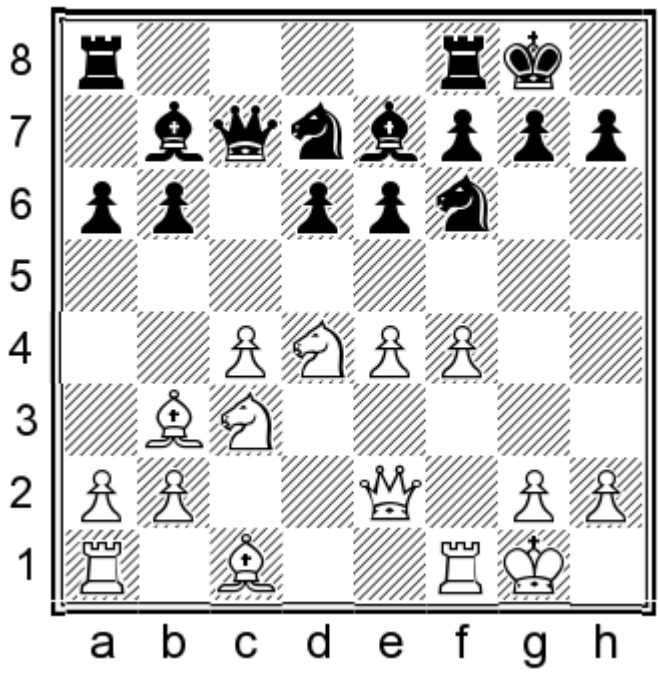
29.Kh2! e4+ 30.Rfg3 Bxg3+ 31.Rxg3 +-

29...Rg1+ 30.Kh2 e4+ 0-1

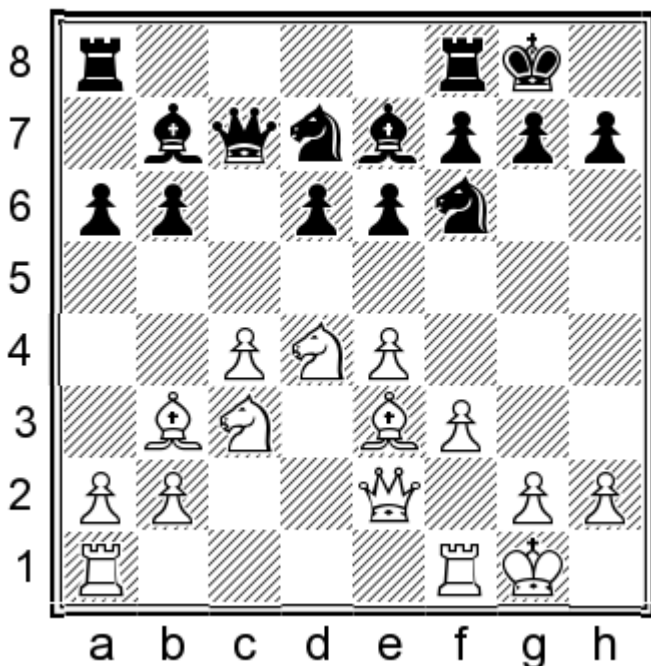
B50-B74

53. * B51
Nakamura, Hikaru (2736) - Carlsen, Magnus (2847)
chess24.com (Int.-m2/2-rapid) 148/53, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O a6 6.c4 e6 7.Nc3 Be7 8.d4
cxd4 9.Nxd4 O-O
9...Qc7 - 138/(80)
10.Qe2 Qc7 11.Bb3 b6 12.Be3
12.f4 Bb7



13.g4N (13.Bc2) 13...d5?! (13...g6 14.f5 Nc5 15.Bc2 gxf5 16.exf5 e5 ∞)
14.cxd5 Bc5 15.Be3 e5 16.fxe5 Nxe5 17.Rxf6! gxf6 18.h3 ± Martin Duque,J
(2438)-Bernadskiy,V (2600) Bassano del Grappa 148/(53) 2021
12...Bb7 13.f3



13...Rac8N

13...Ne5 14.Rac1 Rfc8 15.Nd1 h6 16.a3 Nc6 17.Qf2 Qb8 18.Nc3 Na5 19.Na4 Bd8 20.Ba2 b5 21.cxb5 axb5 =

14.Rac1 Rfe8 15.Rfd1 Qb8 16.Ba4 Rc7 17.b4 Rec8 18.Bb3 b5!?

18...Ne5 19.Na4 Ned7∞ (19...Ba8?! 20.Nxb6 Qxb6 21.Nxe6 Qxb4 22.Nxc7 Rxc7 23.c5! ±)

19.Ncxb5! axb5 20.Nxb5 h5! 21.a4 h4 22.a5

22.h3 d5 23.exd5 Bxb4 24.Nxc7 Qxc7 25.dxe6 fxe6 26.c5! Bd5 27.Bxd5 Nxd5 28.Bd4 ±

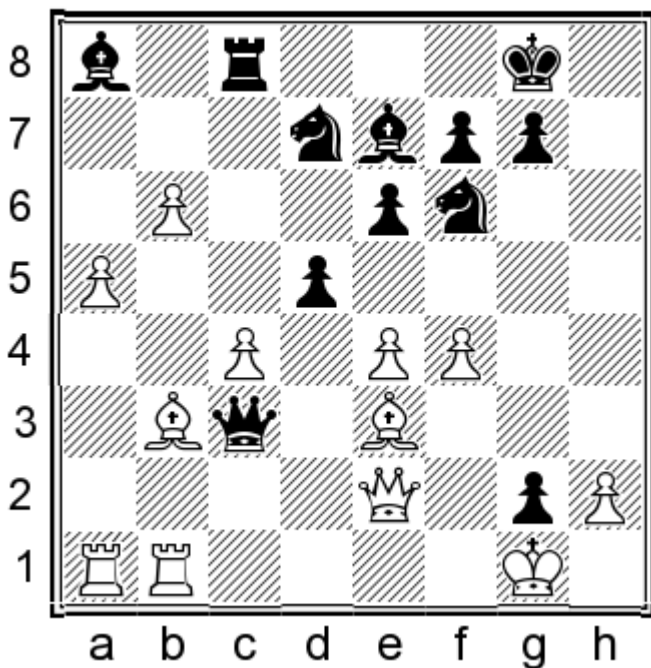
22...h3 23.Ra1 hxg2 24.Nxc7 Qxc7 25.b5 Ba8 26.Rdb1 d5! 27.b6

27.cxd5 exd5 28.Rc1 Nc5 29.Bxd5 Bxd5 30.exd5 Nxd5 31.Bf2 ∞

27...Qe5 28.f4

28.Ba4 Rxc4 29.Bxd7 Bd6 30.Qxg2 Nxd7 31.a6 Nxb6 32.Bxb6 dxe4 ∞

28...Qc3



29.Qe1?

29.cxd5 Bc5! 30.Bxc5 Nxc5 31.a6 Nxb3 32.b7 Rb8 33.bxa8=Q Rxa8 34.a7 Kh7μ; 29.a6! Nxb6 30.Bxb6 Nxe4 31.cxd5 Nd2 32.Qe3 Nxb3 33.Qxc3 Rxc3 34.Ra2 ∞

29...Qd3 30.Ba4

30.a6 Nxb6 31.Bxb6 dxc4- +

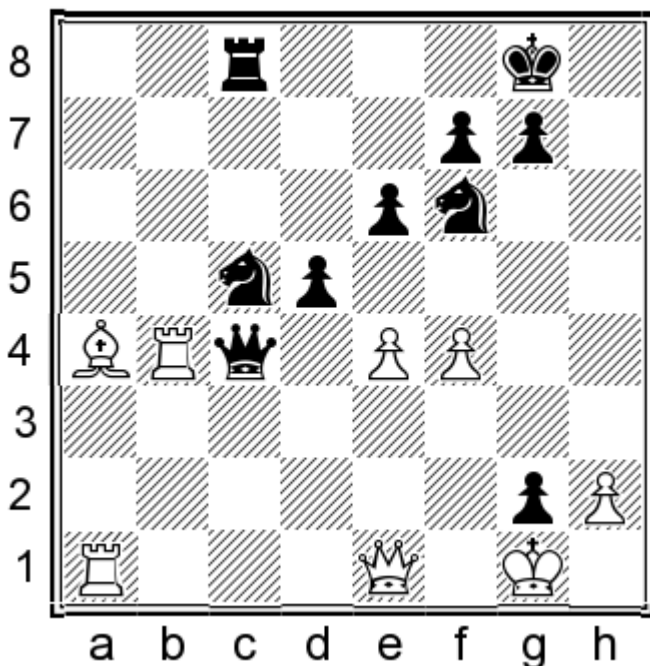
30...Nc5 31.a6 Nxa6

31...Ng4 32.b7 Rb8 33.bxa8=Q Rxa8- +

32.b7 Bxb7 33.Rxb7 Bc5?!

33...Bb4! 34.Rxb4 (34.Qg3 Nxe4 35.Qf3 Bc5 36.Rb3 Nc3- + ; 34.Rd1 Qxe4 35.Qg3 Nh5 36.Qf2 d4- +) 34...Nxb4- +

34.Rb3 Qxc4 35.Bxc5 Nxc5 36.Rb4



36...Qf1+! 37.Qxf1 gxf1=Q+ 38.Kxf1 Nd3 39.Rd4

39.Rb5 dxe4 40.f5 exf5 41.Rxf5 Ng4μ

39...dxe4- + 40.f5 exf5 41.Bd7 Nxd7 42.Rxd7 Rc2 43.Ra8+ Kh7 44.Re8

44.Rxf7 e3 45.Re8 Rf2+ 46.Kg1 e2- +

44...Kg6 45.Ree7 Kg5 46.Rxf7 g6 47.Rd6 Rxh2 48.Rg7 Nf4 49.Re7 0-1

54. * B51

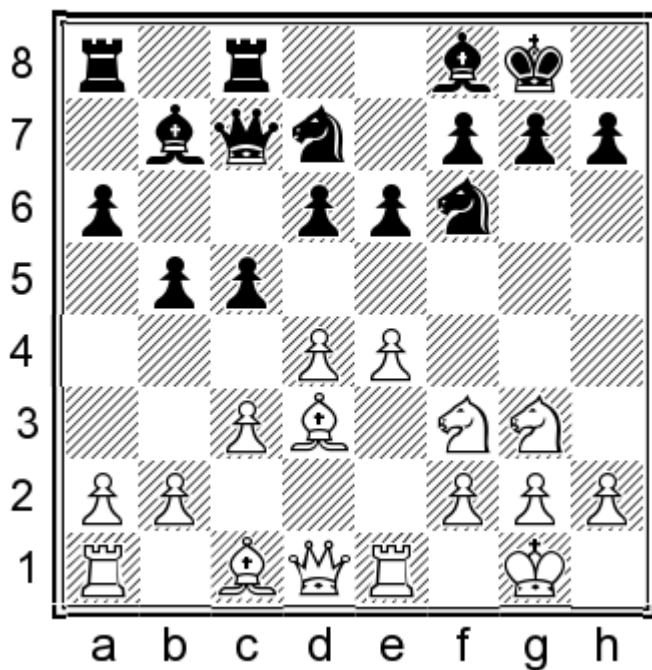
Abdusattorov, Nodirbek (2627) - Yakubboev, Nodirbek (2605)

Tashkent (zt) 148/54, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.O-O a6 5.Bd3 Ngf6 6.Re1 e6 7.c3 Be7
8.Bc2 b5 9.d4 Bb7 10.Nbd2**

10.a4 - 128/62

10...O-O 11.Nf1 Qc7 12.Ng3 Rfc8 13.Bd3 Bf8



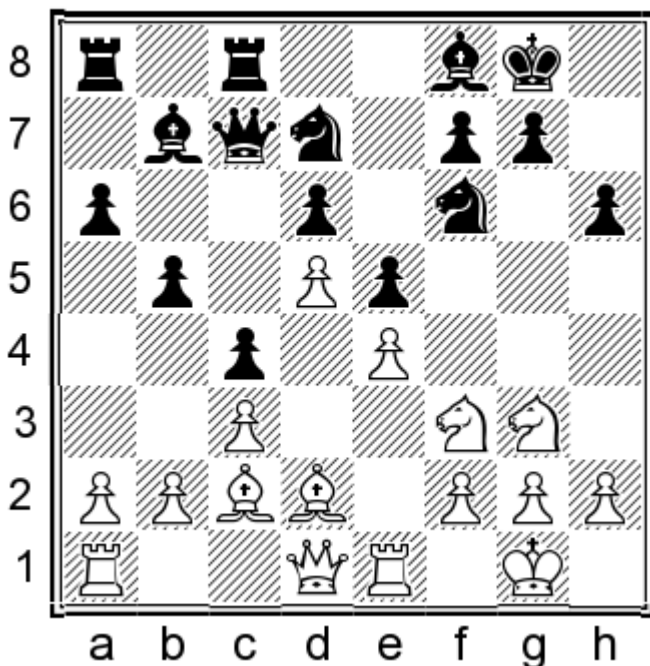
14.Bg5N

14.Qe2

14...h6 15.Bd2 e5

15...Rab8 16.Qe2 a5,,

16.d5² c4 17.Bc2



17...g6?!N

17...Nc5 - 148/(54) 18.h4 Rcb8 19.Nh2 Bc8 20.Qf3 Qd8 21.Nf5 Kh7 22.h5 Kg8 23.g4 Nh7 24.Qg3 f6 25.f4 Rb6 26.Nf3 Qc7 27.Kh2 a5 28.Qg2 Qf7 29.N3h4² Vidic,T (2192)-Juhasz, A (2356) Budapest 148/(54) 2021

17...a5 18.Nf5 Rcb8 19.h3 Bc8 20.Nh2 Nc5 21.Ng4 Nxg4 22.hxg4²

18.h3 Rcb8 19.Qc1 Kh7 20.Nh2 Bc8 21.Rf1 Bg7 22.Ng4 h5?

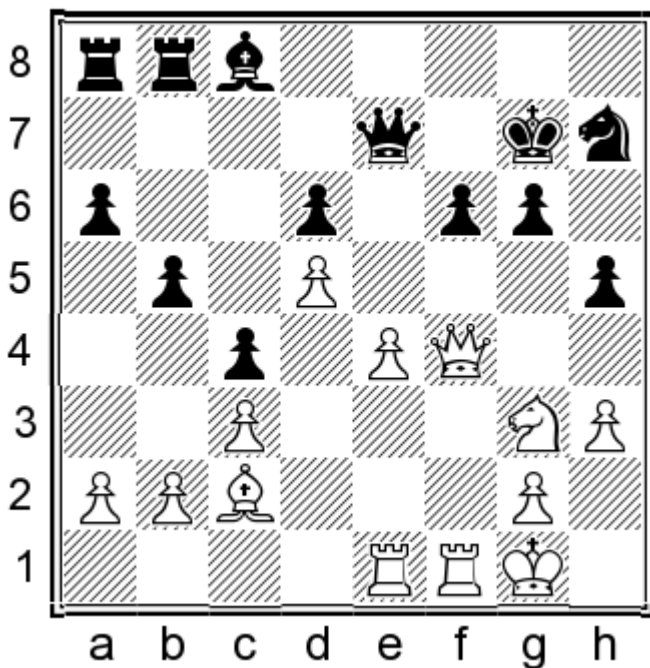
22...Nxg4 23.hxg4 Nc5 24.f3 Bd7 25.Kf2! Qb6 26.Be3 b4 27.Rh1f

23.Nxf6+ Nxf6 24.f4! ± exf4 25.Bxf4 Kg8

25...b4 26.Bg5 bxc3 27.bxc3 Ng8 28.Nxh5! gxh5 29.e5+ Kh8 30.Bf6! +-

26.Bh6 Qe7

26...Nh7 27.Bxg7 Kxg7 28.Qf4 Qe7 29.Rae1 Qf6 (29...f6



30.e5! dxe5 31.Nxh5+ gxh5 32.Qg3+ Kh8 (32...Ng5 33.h4 +-) 33.Bxh7 Kxh7
34.Qh4 +-) 30.Qe3 Qe5 31.Rf4 ±

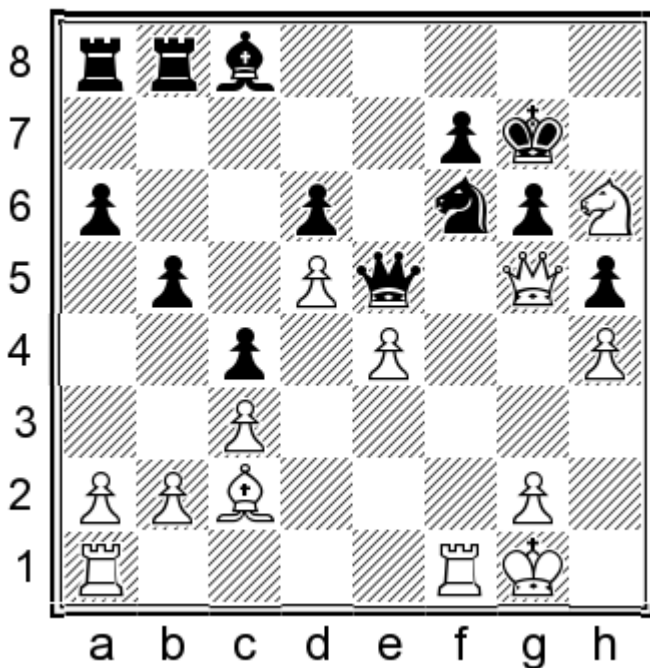
27.Bxg7 Kxg7 28.Qg5 Qe5 29.Nf5+ Kg8

29...Bxf5 30.Rxf5 Qe7 31.Raf1 +-

30.Nh6+

30.Rf3 Rb7 31.Raf1 +-

30...Kg7 31.h4?



31.Nf5+ + -

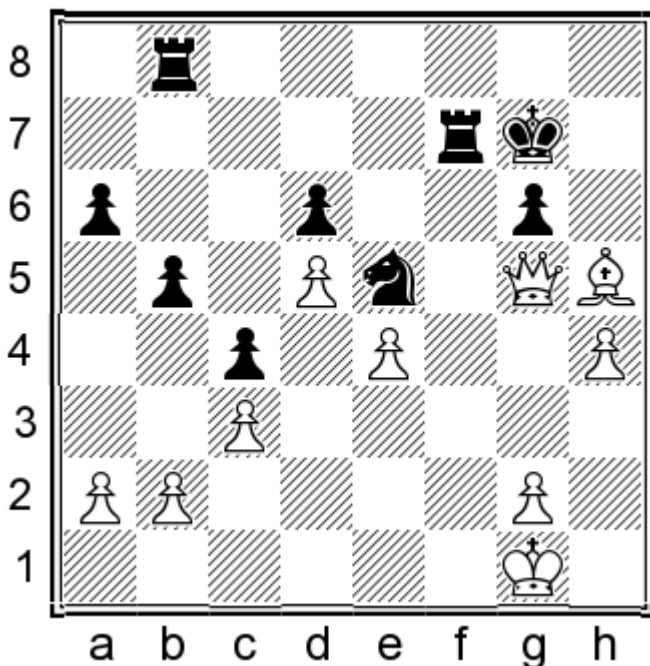
31...Ra7?

31...Rb7! 32.Nf5+ Bxf5 33.Rxf5 Qe7 34.Raf1 Ng4 35.Rxf7+ Qxf7 36.Rxf7+ Rxf7 37.Bd1 Nf6 38.e5 (38.Qf4 Rd7 ∞) 38...dxe5 39.Qxe5 Re8 40.Qg3 Nxd5 41.Bxh5 Nf4 ∞

32.Nf5+ Bxf5 33.Rxf5 Qe7 34.Raf1 Ng4 35.Rxf7+ Qxf7 36.Rxf7+ Rxf7 37.Bd1 Ne5

37...Nf6 38.e5! dxe5 (38...Nxd5 39.Bxh5 Nf4 40.Bxg6 Nxg6 41.h5 + -) 39.Bxh5! + -

38.Bxh5



38...b4?

38...Rbf8! 39.Bg4 (39.Bxg6 Nxc6 40.h5 Rf1+ 41.Kh2 R8f6 42.e5! (42.hxc6 Rxc6 43.Qe7+ Rf7=) 42...dxc5 43.hxc6 R1f5 44.Qd2 (44.Qe3 Rxc6 45.Qa7+ Rf7 46.Qb8 Rf2 47.Qxe5+ Kh7=) 44...Rf2 45.Qe3 Rxb2 46.Qxe5 Kxc6=) 39...Rf1+ 40.Kh2 R8f2 41.Kh3! Rg1! (41...Rxb2 42.Be6 Rf6 43.h5 Rbf2 44.Bf5 Nf7 45.Qe3 R6xf5 46.exf5 Rxf5 47.Qd4+ Re5 48.hxc6 Kxc6±) 42.Qe7+ Rf7 43.Qxd6 Nxc4 44.Kxc4 Rxc2+ 45.Kh3 Rxb2 ∞

39.Bxg6! +- Nxc6 40.h5 Rf6 41.e5! dxc5 42.hxc6 bxc3 43.bxc3 Rb1+

43...e4 44.Qe5 Rb1+ 45.Kh2 Rb2 46.Kh3

44.Kh2 Rxc6 45.Qxe5+ Kh7 46.Qc7+ Kh6 47.Qxc4 Rb2 48.Qe4 Kg7

48...Rxa2 49.d6

49.a4 1-0

55. * B51

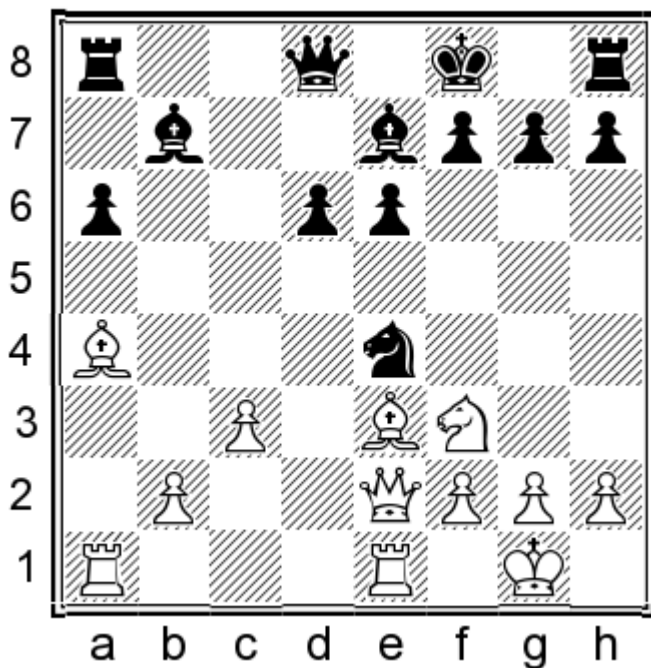
Kollars, Dmitrij (2598) - Kraemer, Martin (2574)

lichess.org (Int.-m/13-blitz) 148/55, 2021

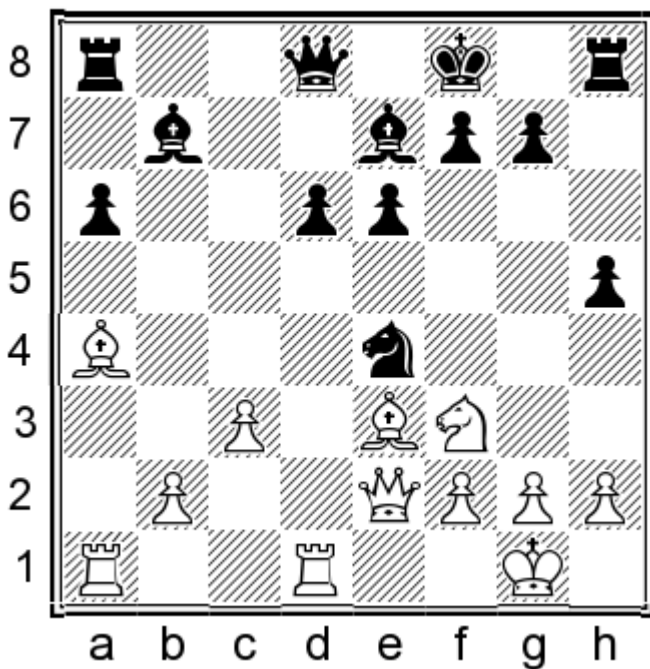
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.O-O a6 5.Bd3 Ngf6 6.Re1 e6 7.c3 b5 8.Bc2 c4 9.a4 Bb7 10.d4 cxd3 11.Qxd3 Nc5 12.Qe2 Nxa4

12...bxa4 13.Be3 Nfxe4 (13...Nfd7 14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Rxa4 Be7 - 142/50

(15...Nxa4?? 16.Bxa4+ Ke7 17.e5! Qa5 18.exd6+ Kd8 19.Ne5 +-)) 14.Nbd2
 Be7 15.Nxe4 Nxe4 16.Bxa4+ Kf8

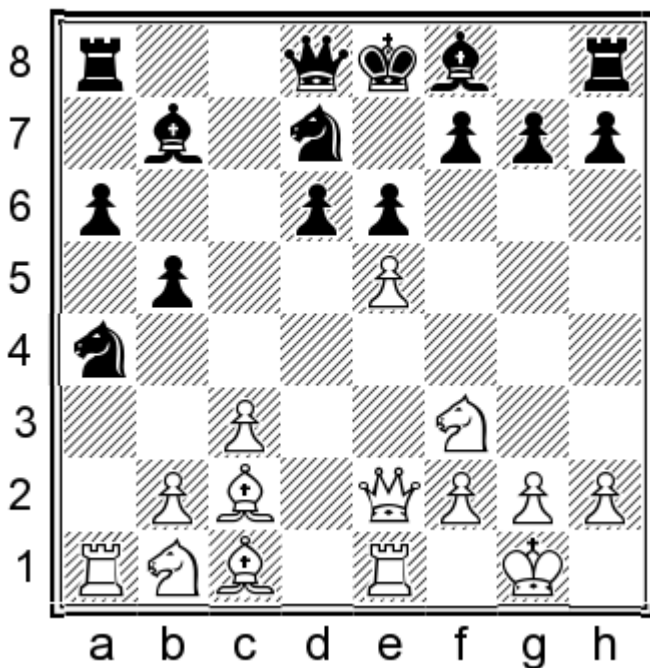


17.Red1N (17.Nd4) 17...h5 Kollars,D (2598)-Kraemer,M (2574) lichess.org
 (Int.-m/7-blitz) 148/(55) 2021 (17...h5



18.Ne5! Nf6 19.Nc6 Qc7 20.Nxe7 Qxe7 21.Bg5→; 17...Qc7 18.Nd4 h5
19.Bc2 Nf6 20.Ra4©)

13.e5 Nd7



14.Rxa4?!N

14.Nbd2 Nab6 15.exd6 Bxd6 16.Ne4 Be7 (16...Nf6 17.Nfg5 Nxe4 18.Nxe4 Be7 19.Qg4→) 17.Nfg5→

14...bxa4 15.Bxa4 Bxf3! 16.Qxf3 d5 17.c4?!

17.Qg3 Qa5 18.b3 Qc7 19.Nd2 O-O-O 20.b4©

17...Bb4 18.Rd1 O-O 19.Qg3

19.cxd5 Nxe5 20.Qe4 Qa5! 21.Bc2 Ng6 22.dxe6 fxe6 23.Qxe6+ Kh8μ

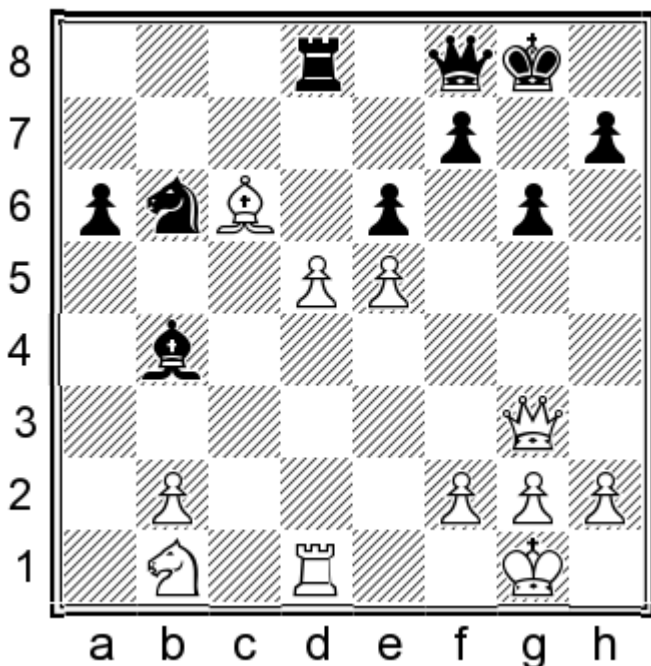
19...Nb6?!

19...Qe7 20.Bh6 f6μ

20.Bh6 g6 21.Bxf8

21.Qb3 Bc5 22.Bxf8 Qxf8 23.cxd5 Nxd5 24.g3³

21...Qxf8 22.Bc6 Rd8 23.cxd5



23...Qc5?

23...Nxd5! 24.Bxd5 Rxd5 25.Rxd5 exd5 26.Nc3 Qc8! (26...Qc5 27.Qh4! Bxc3 28.bxc3 Qb6 29.Qb4 =) 27.Qe3 Bxc3 28.bxc3 a5³

24.Nc3?

24.Qh4! Rb8 25.dxe6 fxe6 (25...Qxc6 26.exf7+ Kg7 27.Qxb4 + -) 26.Bf3 Nd5 27.Na3! Bxa3 28.bxa3 Qxa3 29.Bg4 ±

24...Bxc3 25.Qxc3 Qxc3 26.bxc3 exd5 27.f4 Rc8 28.Bxd5

28.Bb7 Rxc3 29.Bxa6 Kg7 =

28...Nxd5 29.Rxd5 Rxc3 30.Rd8+ Kg7 31.Rd7 Kg8 32.Kf2 h5 33.Ra7 Ra3 34.g3 Kf8 35.Kg2 a5 36.Kh3 Ra2 37.Kh4 Rxh2+ 38.Kg5 Rb2 39.e6! fxe6

39...Rb5+ 40.Kh6 fxe6 41.Kxg6 Rf5 =

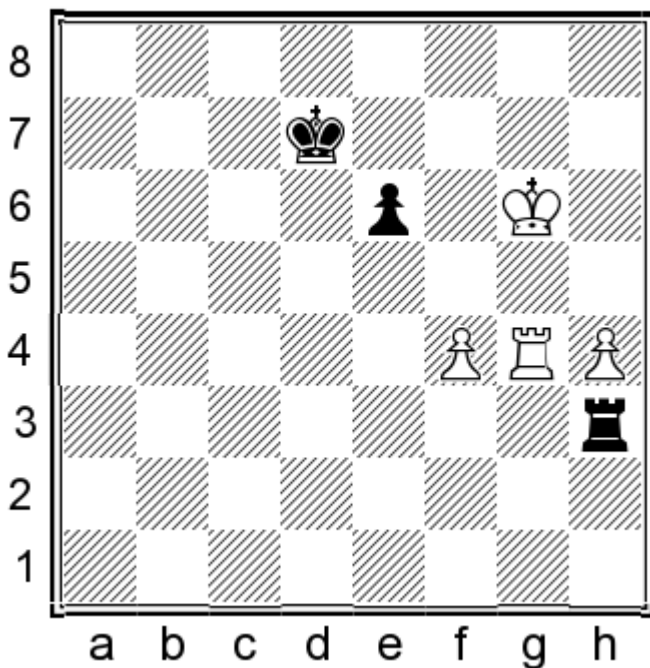
40.Kf6 Ke8 41.Rxa5 Rb3 42.Rg5 h4 43.gxh4 Rh3

43...Rf3 44.Rg4 (44.Kxg6 Rxf4 45.h5 Kf8 =) 44...e5! 45.Kxe5 Kf7 =

44.Rg4 Kd7?

44...Kf8 45.Kxg6 Rh2 46.h5 Rh1 47.Rg2 Rh4 48.Kg5 Rh1 =

45.Kxg6



45...Kd6??

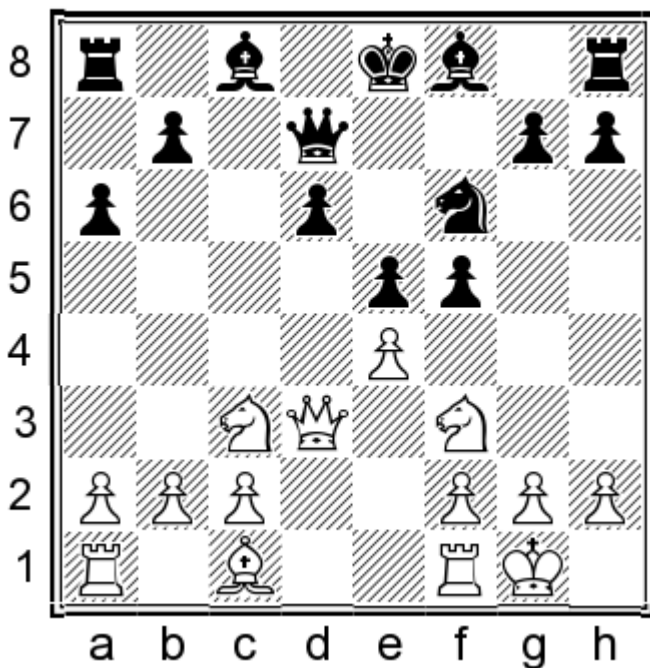
45...Ke7! 46.h5 (46.Kg7 Rh1 =) 46...Kf8 47.h6 Kg8 48.Kf6+ (48.Rg1 Kh8 49.Ra1 Rg3+ 50.Kf6 Rg4 51.Ke5 Rh4 =) 48...Kh7 49.Kxe6 Rxh6+ 50.Kf7 Kh8!! 51.f5 Rh7+ 52.Ke6 (52.Kf8 Rh6 =) 52...Ra7 =

46.h5 + - Kd5 47.h6 1-0

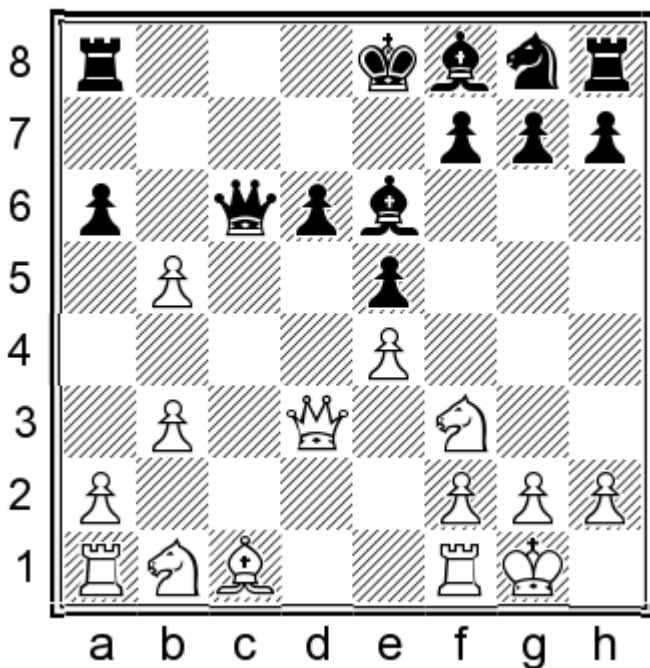
56. * B51

Xiong, Jeffery (2709) - Bellahcene, Bilel (2508)
chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/56, 2021

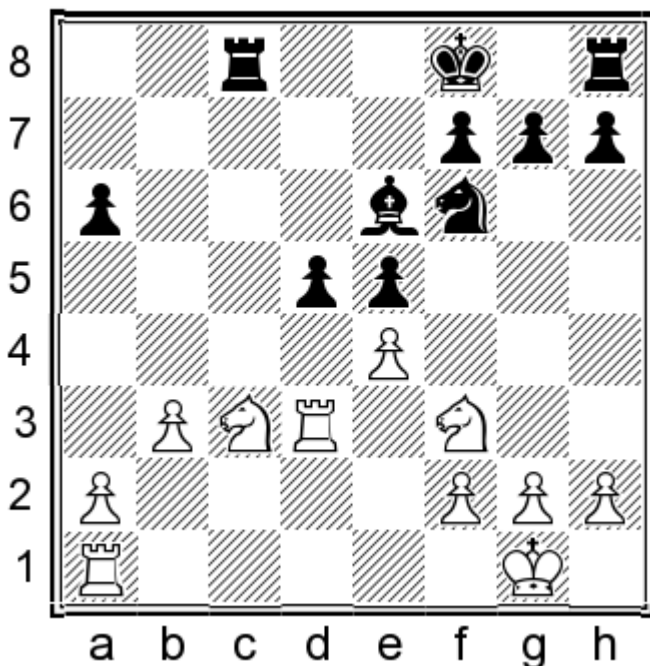
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.d4 cxd4 5.Qxd4 a6 6.Bxd7+ Qxd7!? 7.c4
7.O-O e5 8.Qd3 Qc6 (8...f5?! 9.Nc3 Nf6



10.Re1! (10.Bg5 Nxe4 11.Nxe4 fxe4 12.Qxe4 Qf5 ∞) 10...b5 (10...f4?
 11.Bxf4! exf4 12.e5 dxe5 13.Rxe5+ Kd8 14.Nd5 $\pm$; 10...fxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4
 12.Rxe4 Be7 13.Bg5 $\pm$) 11.exf5 Be7 (11...Qxf5? 12.Nxe5! $\pm$) 12.Bg5 Qxf5
 13.Ne4! $\pm$) 9.c4 Be6 10.b3 b5 11.cxb5



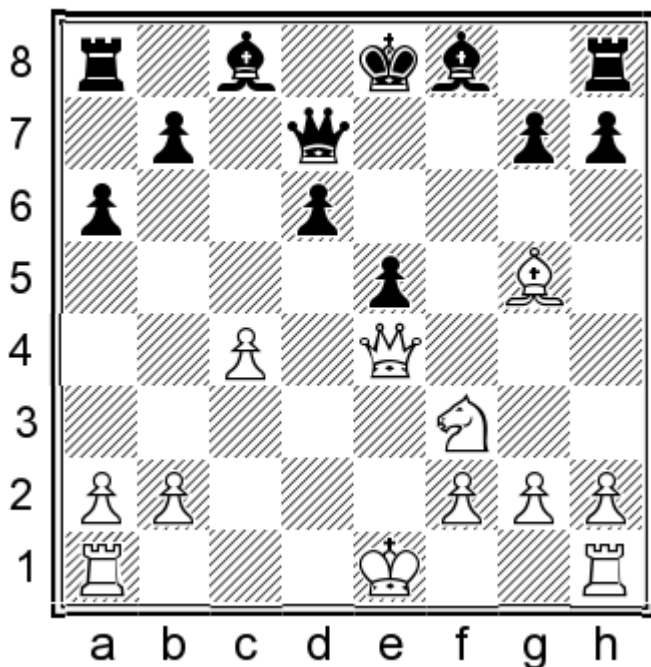
(11.Na3 - 133/69) 11...Qxb5N (11...axb5) 12.Rd1 Nf6 13.Nc3 Qxd3 14.Rxd3 Rc8 15.Ba3 d5! 16.Bxf8 Kxf8



17.Nxe5 (17.exd5!? Bf5 18.Re3 Ng4 19.Nd1 e4 20.Nd2 Nxe3 21.Nxe3 ∞)

17...dxe4 18.Re3 Rc5 ∞ Erdogmus,Y (1955)-Cheparinov,I (2667)
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(56) 2021

7...e5 8.Qd3 f5 9.Nc3 Nf6 10.Bg5 fxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Qxe4



12...Qf5N

12...h6 - 133/(69)

13.Qe2?!

13.Qe3 Bd7 14.O-O h6 15.Bh4 ∞

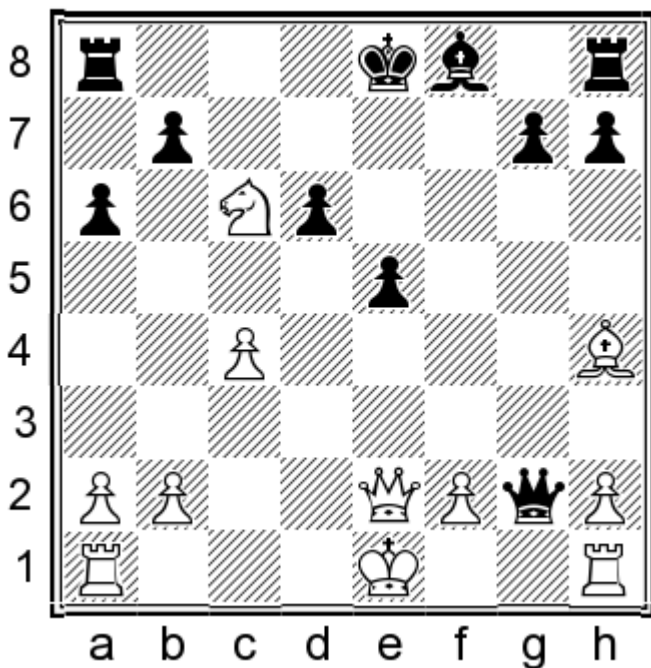
13...Bd7 14.Bh4?!

14.Rd1 Bc6 15.O-O Bxf3 16.Qxf3 Qxf3 (16...Qxg5 17.Qxb7 Rd8 18.f4f)
17.gxf3 Rc8³

14...Bc6

14...g5! 15.Nxg5 (15.Bxg5 Rg8 16.Be3 Bc6μ) 15...Rg8 16.Ne4 (16.Qh5+
Rg6μ) 16...Rxd7 17.Nf6+ Kf7 18.Nxd7 Rg4!μ

15.Nd4! Qe4 16.Nxc6 Qxg2?



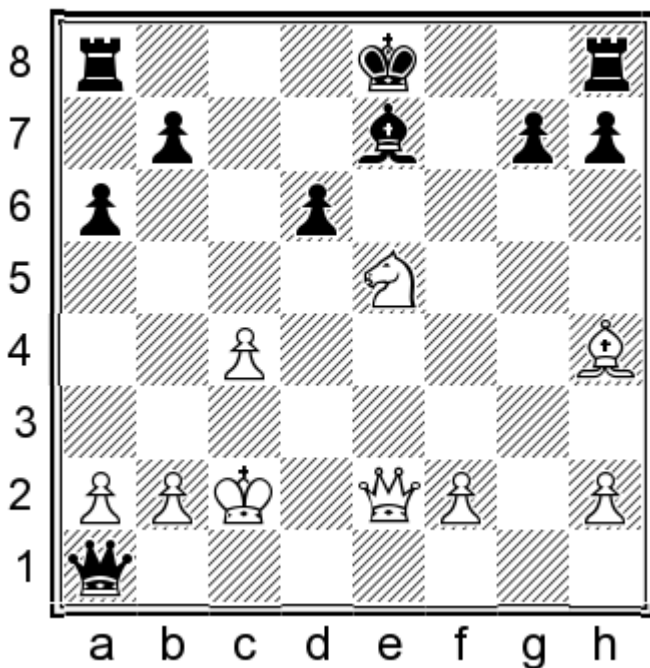
16...Qxc6? 17.O-O + -; 16...Qxe2+ 17.Kxe2 bxc6 18.f3 Be7 19.Be1 ∞

17.Nxe5?

17.O-O-O! Qxc6 18.Kb1! Be7 (18...Rc8 19.c5! + -; 18...Qd7 19.c5 Qf5+ 20.Ka1 g5 (20...dxc5 21.Rd5 + -) 21.cxd6 gxh4 22.f4! + -) 19.Bxe7 Kxe7 20.f4 Rhe8 (20...e4 21.Rd5 + -) 21.fxe5 Kf8 22.Qf2+ Kg8 23.exd6 Qxc4 24.d7 Rf8 25.Qb6 + -

17...Qxh1+ 18.Kd2 Qxa1 19.Kc2! = Qxa2

19...dxe5 20.Qxe5+ Kd7 21.Qd5+ Kc7 22.Bg3+ Kb6 23.Bd6™ Bxd6 24.Qxd6+ Ka7 25.Qc5+=; 19...Be7



20.Qh5+! (20.Ng6? O-O-O!- +) 20...g6 (20...Kd8?? 21.Bxe7+ Kc7 22.Qf7! +-) 21.Qg4 O-O 22.Qe6+ Kh8 23.Qxe7 dxe5 24.Bf6+ Rxf6 25.Qxf6+ Kg8 26.Qe6+ =; 19...h5 20.Qe4! dxe5 21.Qxe5+ =

20.Qg4 Qa4+ 21.Kc1 Qa1+ 22.Kc2 Qa4+ 23.Kb1 Be7 24.Qe6 Qd1+ 25.Ka2 Qa4+ 26.Kb1 Qd1+ 27.Ka2 Qa4+ 28.Kb1 1/2-1/2

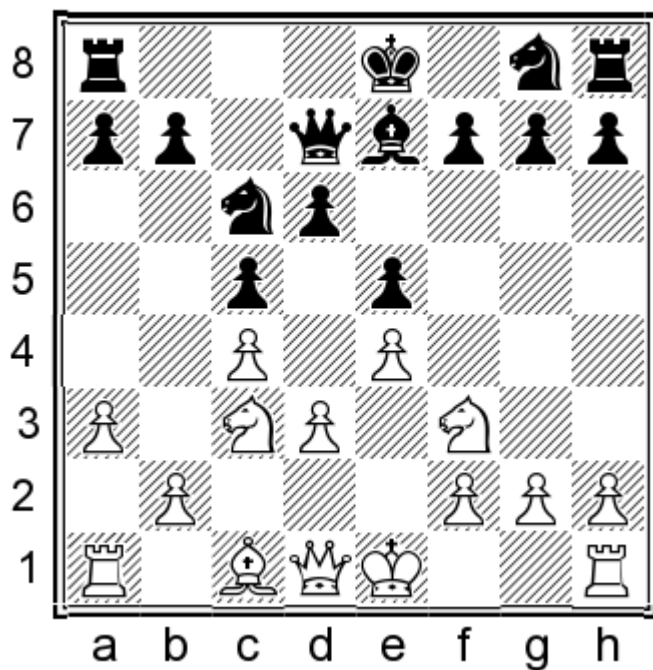
57. ** B52

Erigaasi, Arjun (2567) - Adhiban, Baskaran (2660)
chess24.com (Int.-m/4-rapid) 148/57, 2021

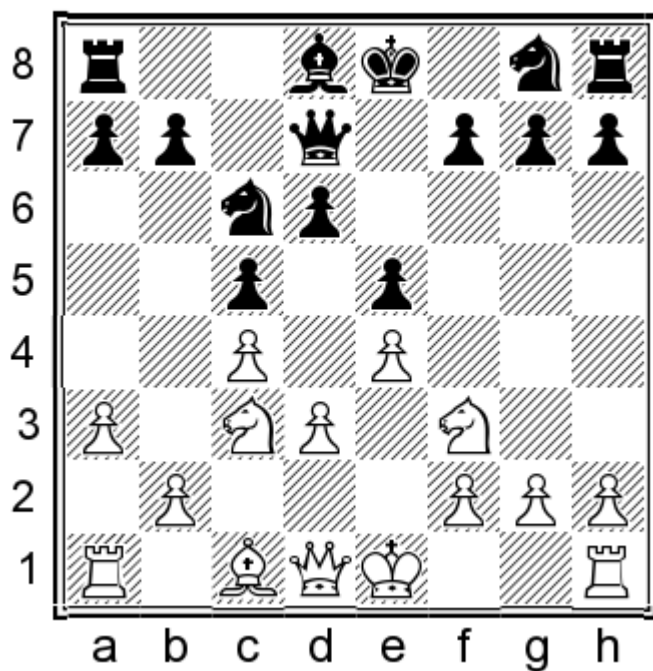
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.c4 e5 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.d3 Be7

7...g6 - 18/413

8.a3



8...Bd8

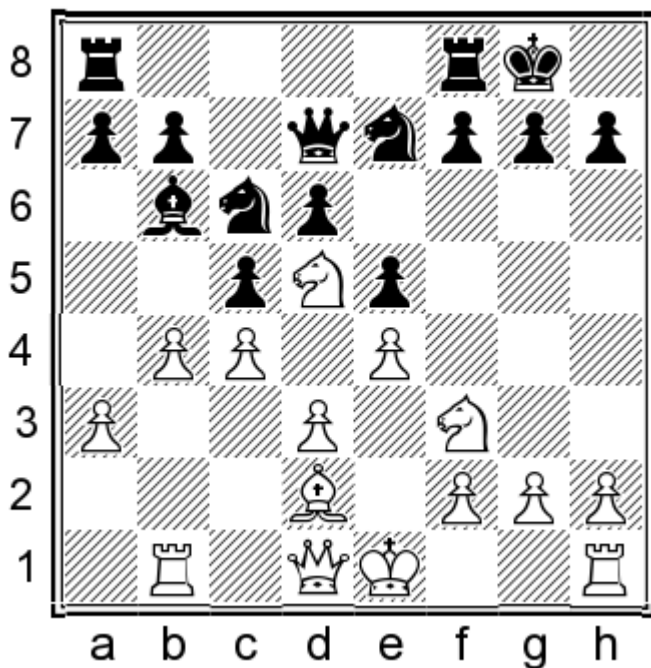


8...a5!?

9.O-O - 148/57

9.Nd5!?N - 148/(57) 9...Nge7 10.b4 O-O 11.O-O cxb4 (11...Bb6 12.Be3 Nd4 =) 12.axb4 Nxd5 13.exd5 Nxb4 14.Ba3 Na6∞ Lagno,K (2546)-Baches Garcia,G (2329) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(57) 2021

9.Bd2!?N Nge7 10.Rb1 O-O 11.b4 Bb6 12.Nd5



12...h6? (12...f5 13.O-O fxe4 14.dxe4 Nxd5 15.cxd5 Nd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4∞)
13.Bxh6!± Erigaisi,A (2567)-Adhiban,B (2660) chess24.com (Int.-m/2-rapid) 148/(57) 2021

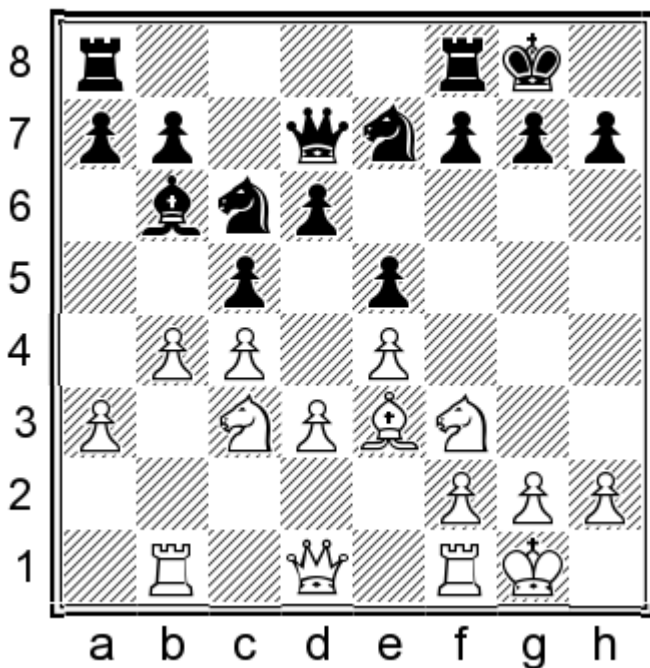
9...Nge7 10.b4 O-O

10...cxb4 11.axb4 Nxb4 12.Ba3 Nbc6 13.d4²

11.Rb1 Bb6

11...f5 12.bxc5 dxc5 13.Nd5 b6 14.Re1 Ng6∞

12.Be3



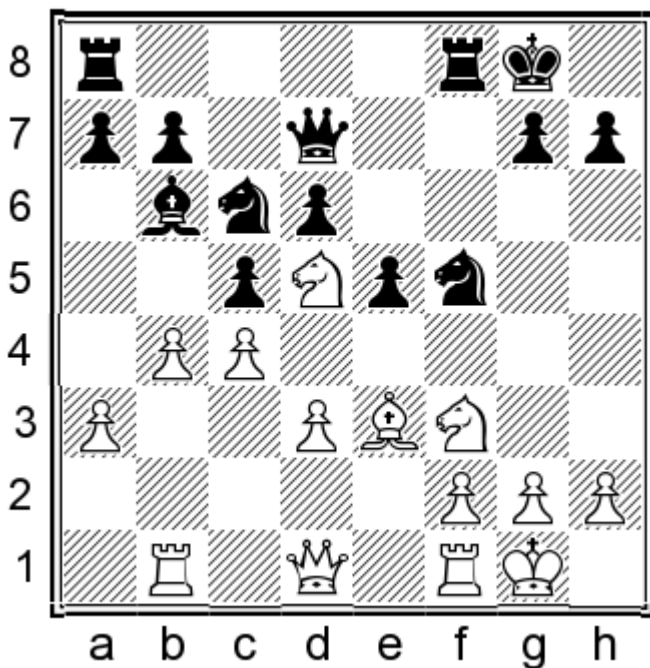
12...f5N

12...Nd4 13.Nd2 Rad8 14.Re1 f5 15.Bg5 cxb4 16.axb4 f4 17.Nf3 Ra8
 18.Bxe7 Qxe7 19.Nd5 Nxf3+ 20.Qxf3 Qf7 21.Rec1 Bd4 22.Nc3 a6 23.h3
 Rac8 24.Ne2 Bb6 25.Rc2 Kh8 26.Rbc1 Qf6 27.Ra2 =

13.exf5

13.bxc5 Bxc5 14.Bxc5 dxc5 15.exf5 Rxf5 16.Ne4 b6 ∞; 13.Nd5 f4 14.Bd2
 Nxd5 15.cxd5 Nd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 ∞

13...Nxf5 14.Nd5



14...Nce7! 15.Nxe7+

15.Nxb6 axb6 16.Qb3 Ng6f

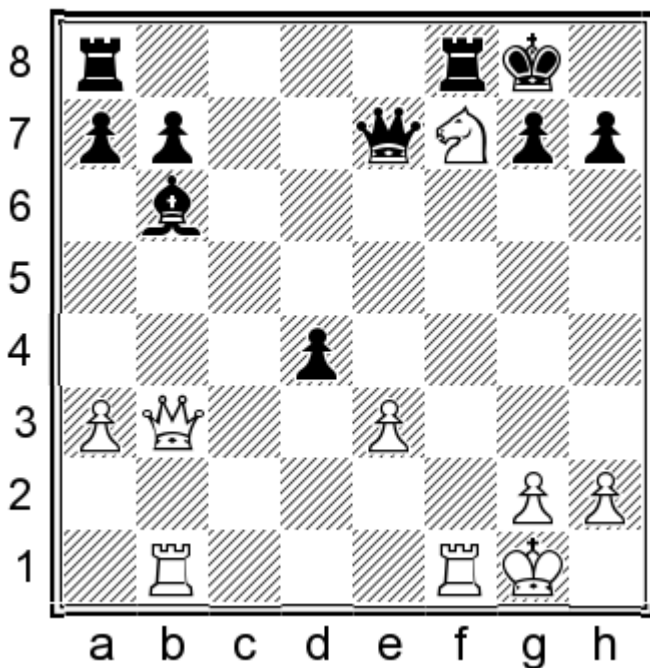
15...Qxe7 16.bxc5 Nxe3 17.fxe3 Bxc5 18.d4 Bb6 19.Qb3 Kh8 20.c5

20.Kh1 exd4 21.exd4 Rf4 22.Rbe1 Qf7 23.Qd3 Rf8 ∞

20...dxc5 21.Nxe5

21.dxe5 c4 22.Qxc4 Bxe3+ 23.Kh1 b6 ∞

21...cxd4 22.Nf7+ Kg8



23.Nh6+

23.Nd8+ Kh8 24.Rxf8+ Qxf8 25.Nf7+ Kg8 26.Rf1 Qe7 27.Nd8+ Kh8 =

23...Kh8 24.Nf7+ Kg8 25.Nh6+ Kh8 26.Nf7+ 1/2-1/2

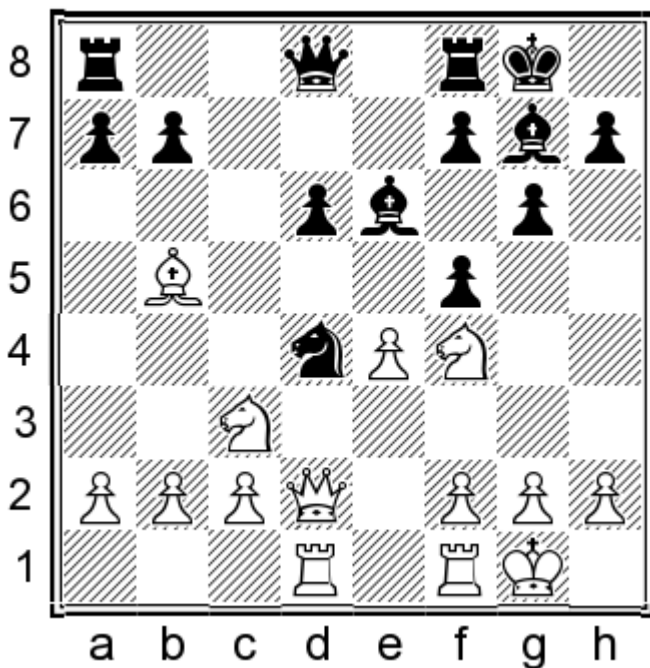
58. * B60

Alekseev, Evgeny V (2619) - Dubov, Daniil (2710)

chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/58, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 g6 7.Bxf6 exf6
8.Bb5 Bd7 9.Nb3**

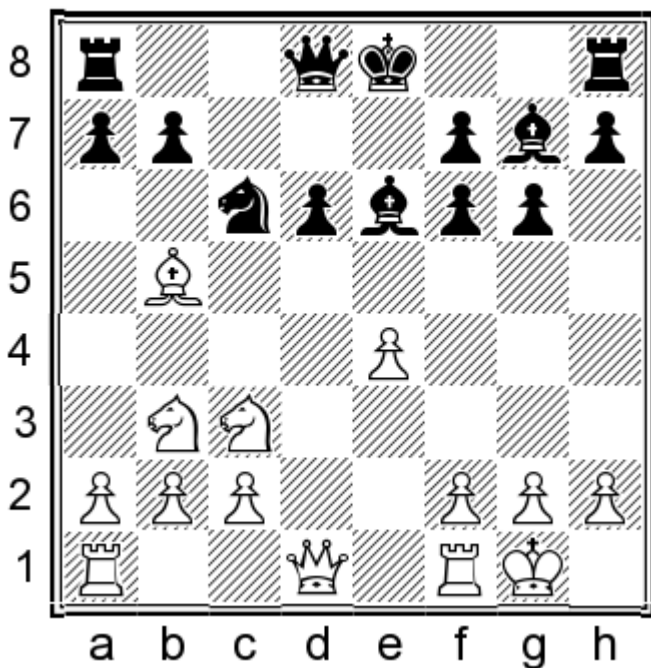
9.O-O Bg7 10.Nde2 Be6 11.Nf4 O-O 12.Qd2 (12.Nxe6 fxe6 ∞) 12...f5
13.Rad1 Nd4



14.exf5N (14.Bd3 Qh4 15.f3 Rae8f) 14...Bxf5 15.Bd3 Qg5f Carlsen,M
(2847)-Dubov,D (2710) chess24.com (Int.-m/ 2-b blitz) 148/(58) 2021

9.Nde2 Be6 10.Nf4 Bg7 11.Qd3 - 92/185

9...Be6 10.O-O Bg7



11.Nd5N

11.f4 f5 12.exf5 Bxf5 (12...gxf5!?) 13.Qe2+ (13.Re1+ Be6 ∞) 13...Kf8
14.Bd3 Ne7 15.Rae1 h5 ∞

11...O-O 12.c3 f5 13.exf5 Bxf5 14.Ne3!?

14.Bd3 Be6 15.Be4 Re8 16.Re1 a5 ∞

14...Be6 15.Be2

15.Bc4?! Bxc4 16.Nxc4 d5 17.Ne3 d4 18.cxd4 Nxd4³

15...d5 16.Nc2

16.Bf3 d4 17.Bxc6 Bxb3 (17...dxe3!? 18.Bxb7 Rb8 19.Qxd8 Rfxd8 20.Bf3
Bh6©) 18.Qxb3 bxc6 19.cxd4 Qxd4 ∞

16...Qb6 17.Qd2 Rad8 18.Ncd4 Ne5 19.Rad1 Rfe8 20.Rfe1

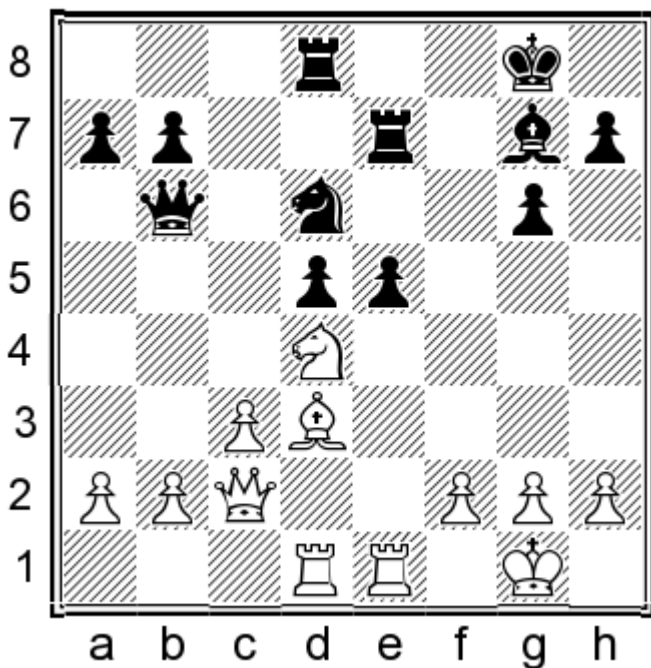
20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Rfe1 Rf8 22.Nd4 ∞

20...Nc4 21.Qc2 Nd6

21...Bd7!

22.Nxe6 fxe6 23.Bd3 Re7 24.g3

24.Nd4! e5



25.Qb3! Qxb3 (25...Qc5 26.Nc2 ∞) 26.axb3 Bf6 27.Nc2 ∞

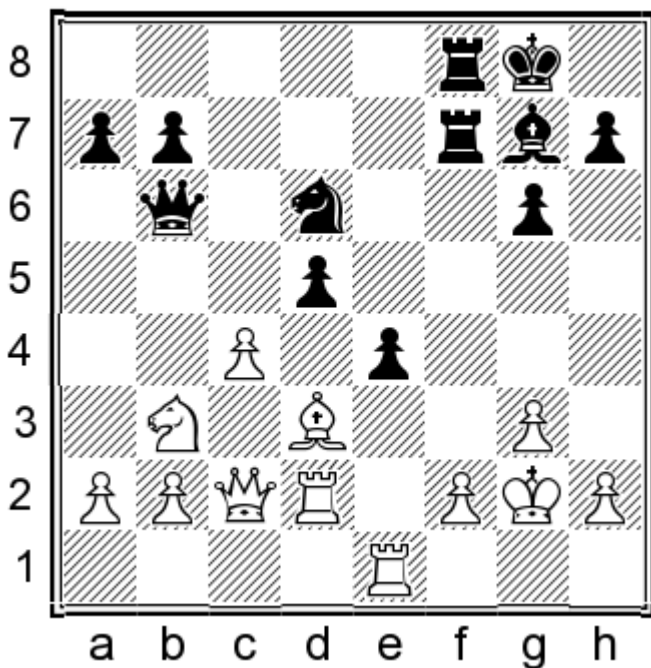
24...Rf8 25.Kg2 Ref7 26.Rd2

26.f4 e5 μ ; 26.Re2 Nc4³

26...e5?!

26...Nc4! 27.Rde2 (27.Bxc4 dxc4 28.Nc1 (28.Nd4? e5- +) 28...Rf3 μ) 27...e5
28.Bxc4 dxc4 29.Nc1 Qc6+ 30.Kg1 b5 μ

27.c4 e4?



27...Qb4 28.cxd5 Bh6 29.Rde2 Rxf2+ (29...e4!? 30.Bxe4 Rxf2+ 31.Rxf2 Qxe1 32.Rxf8+ Bxf8 33.Bf3 Nf5 34.Kh3 ∞) 30.Rxf2 Qxe1 31.Rxf8+ Bxf8 32.Qd2 =

28.Bf1?

28.c5! exd3 29.Qxd3 Qc6 (29...Qb5 30.cxd6 Rxf2+ 31.Kg1 Qxd3 (31...Qb6 32.Qxd5+ Kh8 33.Kh1 ±) 32.Rxd3 R2f5 33.Nc5 ±) 30.cxd6 Qxd6 31.Nd4²

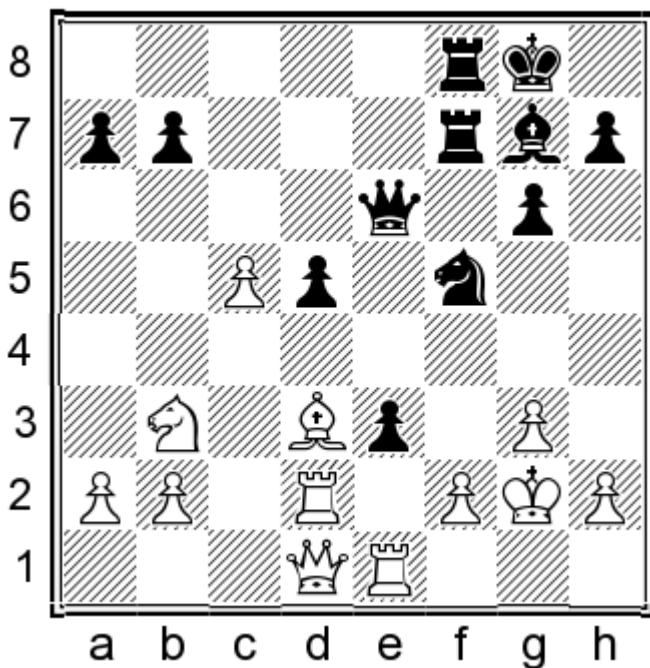
28...Nf5 29.c5

29.cxd5 e3- +

29...Qe6 30.Qd1

30.Kg1 h5 31.Qd1 h4- +

30...e3 31.Bd3



31...Nh4+!

31...Nh4+ 32.gxh4 (32.Kh1 Rxf2- +) 32...Rxf2+ 33.Kg1 Qh3- +

0-1

59. B61

Sargsyan, Shant (2598) - Mitev, Valentin (2166)

Beograd 148/59, 2021

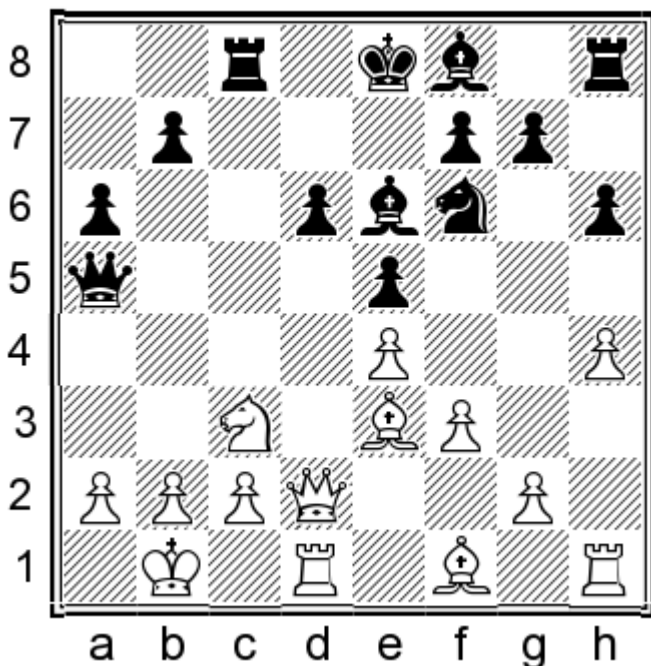
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Bd7 7.Qd2 Rc8 8.f3 Nxd4

8...a6 - 24/395

9.Qxd4 Qa5 10.h4 h6 11.Be3 a6 12.O-O-O e5 13.Qd2

13.Qa7!? Qc7 14.g4 Be6 15.Qb6 Qxb6 (15...Qb8 16.Kb1 Be7 17.Nd5 ±) 16.Bxb6²

13...Be6 14.Kb1



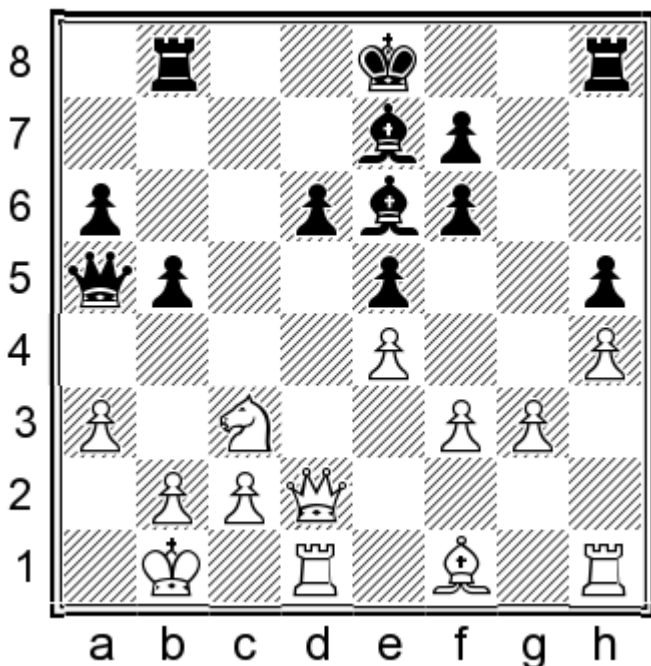
14...h5N

14...Rxc3? 15.Qxc3 Qxa2+ (15...Qxc3 16.bxc3 d5 17.exd5 Nxd5 18.Bd2 +-)
 16.Kc1 d5 17.Qxe5 +-; 14...b5 15.g4 b4 16.Nd5 h5 17.Bg5 ±; 14...Be7!?
 15.g4 Rxc3!? 16.Qxc3 Qxa2+ 17.Kc1 d5 18.exd5 Nxd5 19.Qxe5 O-O 20.Bd4
 Bf6 21.Qe4 ±

15.Bg5 Be7 16.a3 b5 17.g3

17.Bxf6!? Bxf6 18.Nd5 (18.Qxd6 Be7 19.Qxe5 (19.Qd2 Bxa3 20.Nd5 Qxd2
 21.Rxd2 Bc5 22.Be2 =) 19...Bf6 20.Qd6 Rxc3! 21.bxc3 Qxc3 22.e5 Ba2+
 23.Kxa2 (23.Kc1 Qe3+ 24.Rd2 Qe1+ 25.Rd1 Qe3+ =) 23...Qxc2+ 24.Ka1
 Qc3+ =) 18...Qxd2 19.Rxd2 Bxd5 20.Rxd5 Ke7 21.a4! ±

17...Rb8 18.Bxf6 gxf6



18...Bxf6 19.Qxd6+-

19.f4

19.Bh3! b4 20.Na2 Qb6 21.Nxb4 a5 22.Bxe6 fxe6 (22...axb4 23.Bc4 bxa3 24.b3 ±) 23.Nd3 d5 24.a4 ±

19...Rg8

19...b4! 20.Na2 (20.Nd5 Bxd5 21.exd5 Bd8! =) 20...Qa4 21.Nxb4 a5 22.Nd5 Qxa3 23.Qc3 Qxc3 24.Nxc3² exf4! 25.gxf4 Bg4 26.Be2 (26.Rd5 f5! 27.Bd3 Bf6 ∞) 26...f5 =

20.Qe1

20.Qf2! b4 21.Qa7 Qb6 22.Qxb6 Rxb6 23.axb4 Rxb4 24.f5 Bd7 25.Rd3²

20...Bd8?

20...b4! 21.Nd5 Bxd5 22.Rxd5 Qa4 23.b3 bxa3 24.Ka2 Qb4 =

21.f5 Bd7

21...Bc4 22.Bxc4 bxc4 23.Ka2 Qb6 24.Rb1 ±

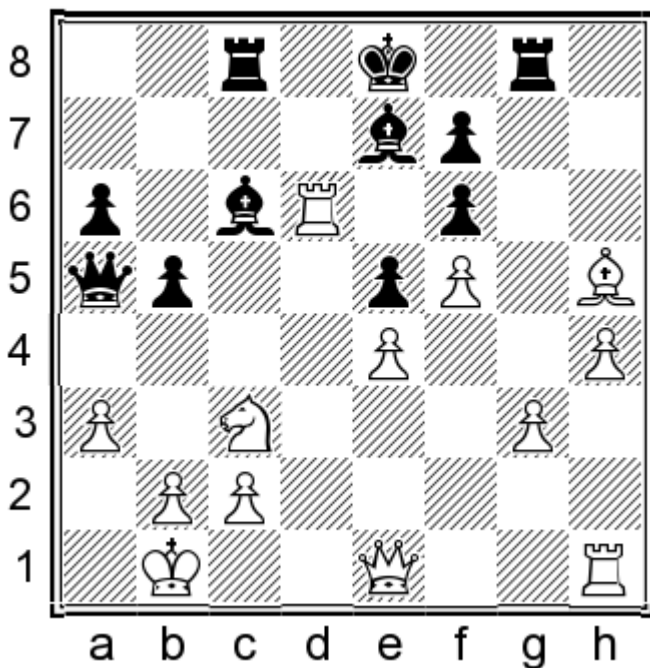
22.Be2 Bc6

22...b4 23.Nd5 Qa4 (23...bxa3?? 24.Nxf6+) 24.axb4 a5 25.b3 Qa3 26.b5! ±

23.Rxd6 Rc8?

23...Qc7 24.Rxc6 Qxc6 25.Nd5 ±

24.Bxh5 Be7



25.Re6!? Qc7 26.Nd5 Bxd5 27.exd5 Qxc2+ 28.Ka1 Qxf5?

28...Kf8 29.Rxa6 b4 30.Qd1! +- (30.d6? Bxd6 31.Rxd6 bxa3 ∞)

29.g4 +- Rxc4 30.Bxc4 Qxc4 31.Rg1 Qc4 32.Rg8+ Kd7 33.Rxc8 Qxc8

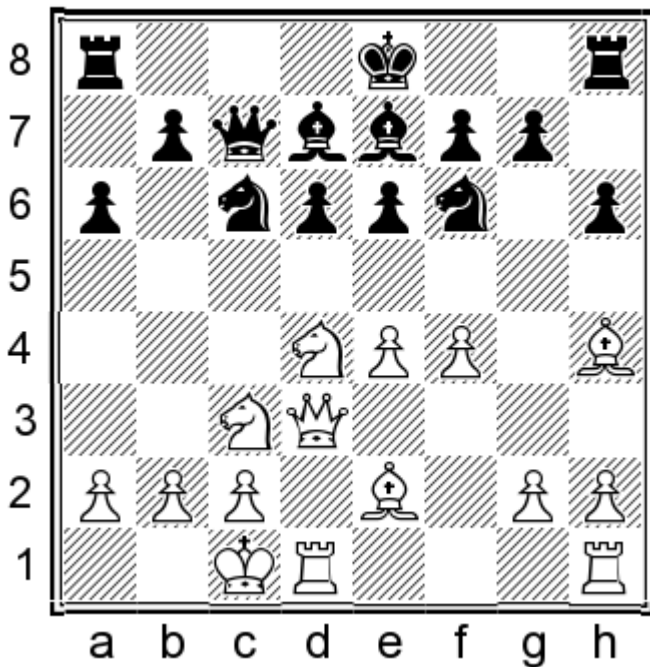
34.Rc6 Qb7 35.Qc3 Bd6 36.h5 b4 37.axb4 Qxb4 38.Rxd6+ Qxd6 39.Qc6+ 1-0

60. * B62

Williams, Simon Kim (2464) - Dubov, Daniil (2710)
chess24.com (Int.-m/2-blitz) 148/60, 2021

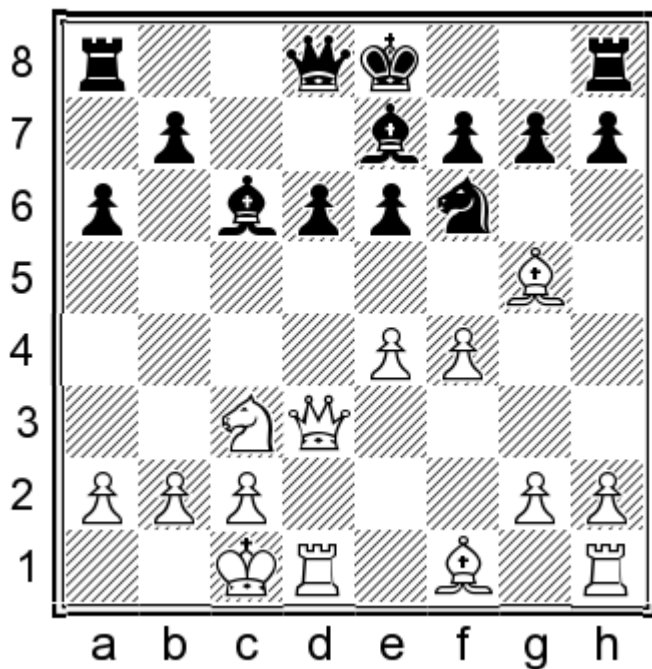
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd3 Bd7
8.O-O-O a6 9.f4 Be7 10.Nxc6

10.Be2 h6 11.Bh4 Qc7



12.f5N Kovalev,V (2648)-Subhayan,K (2305) Bangladesh 148/(60) 2021
 (12.f5 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 O-O 14.g4→; 12.Bf3)10.Nb3 - 22/440

10...Bxc6



11.Kb1N

11.f5

11...O-O

11...h6! 12.Bh4 (12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.Qe3 Qe7³) 12...O-O³

12.h4 b5 13.Bxf6

13.e5 dxe5 14.fxe5 Nd5 15.Nxd5 Bxd5 16.Qg3 Kh8 17.Bd3 ∞

13...Bxf6 14.Ne2 Qa5 15.Nd4 Rac8

15...Bxd4 16.Qxd4 e5 17.fxe5 (17.Qe3 exf4 18.Qxf4 Rae8 19.Bd3 Re5³)
17...dxe5 18.Qxe5 Rae8 19.Qc5 Bxe4 20.Bd3 Bxd3 21.Rxd3 Qe1+ 22.Rd1
Qe2f; 15...Bb7 16.g4 Qa4 17.g5 Bxd4 18.Qxd4 Qxd4 19.Rxd4 e5 ∞ (19...f5!?
∞)

16.g4 Bxd4 17.Qxd4 e5 18.Qe3

18.fxe5 dxe5 19.Qe3 ∞

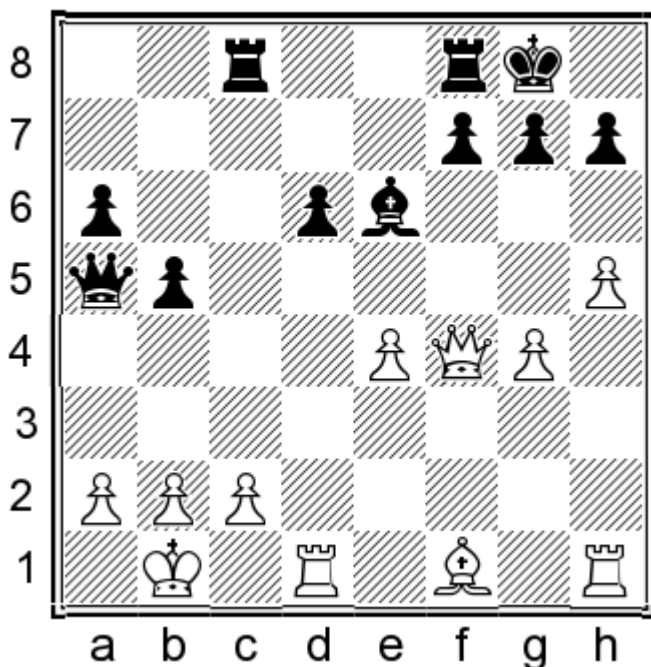
18...exf4 19.Qxf4 Bd7

19...d5 20.exd5 (20.e5 Qc7 21.Bd3 Rce8 ∞) 20...Bxd5 21.Rxd5 Qe1+ 22.Qc1
Qe4 23.Rg5 Qxh1 24.Rxg7+ Kxg7 25.Qg5+ Kh8 26.Qf6+ Kg8 27.Qg5+ = ;
19...Rce8 20.Bd3 Re5 ∞

20.h5

20.Rxd6 Be6 21.b3 Qe1+ 22.Qc1 Qxe4 23.Bd3 Qb4 24.Rxa6 Rfd8 25.Qe3
Bxg4 ∞

20...Be6

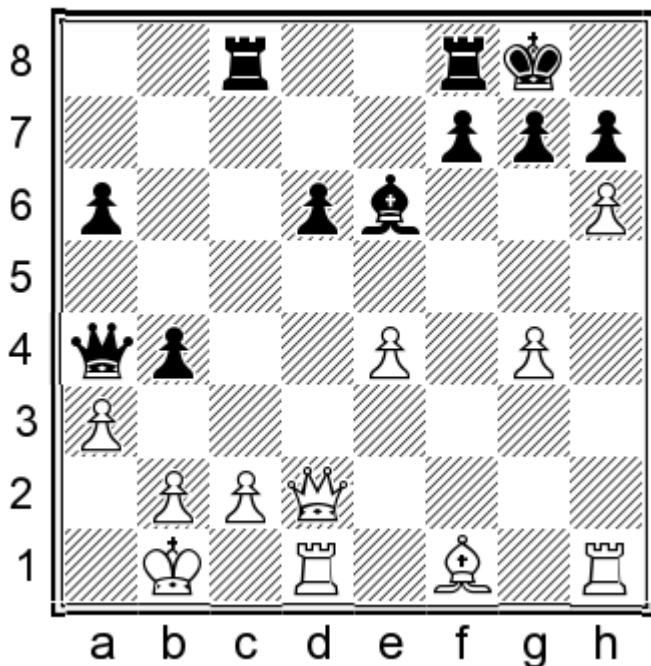


21.a3?

21.b3 Qc3 22.Bd3 Qe5 (22...h6!? ∞) 23.Qxe5 dxe5 24.g5 f5 ∞

21...b4! 22.h6?

22.Qd2 Qa4 23.Rh2 (23.h6



23...Rxc2! (23...bxa3? 24.b3! ∞) 24.Qxc2 Ba2+ 25.Kc1 Bb3-+) 23...bxa3

24.Qd4 Qxd4 25.Rxd4 axb2 26.Kxb2 Rc6μ

22...bxa3 23.hxg7 Ba2+! 24.Kxa2 axb2+ 25.Kxb2 Qc3+ 26.Ka2 Qxc2+

27.Ka1 Qxd1+ 0-1

61. B65

Martin Duque, Jesus (2422) - Nevednichy, Vladislav (2546)

Los Cancajos 148/61, 2020

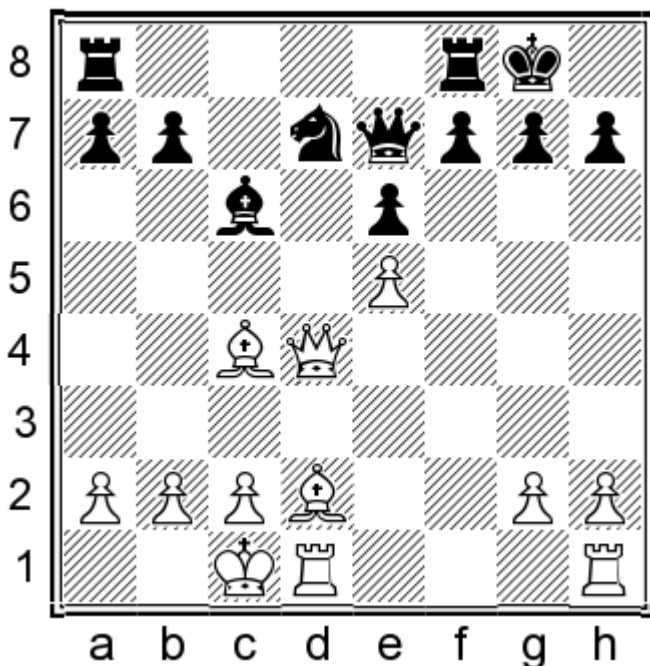
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 Be7

8.O-O-O O-O 9.f4 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Qa5 11.Bc4 Bd7 12.e5 dxe5 13.fxe5 Bc6

14.Bd2 Nd7 15.Nd5 Qd8

15...Qc5 - 92/190

16.Nxe7+ Qxe7



17.Rhe1

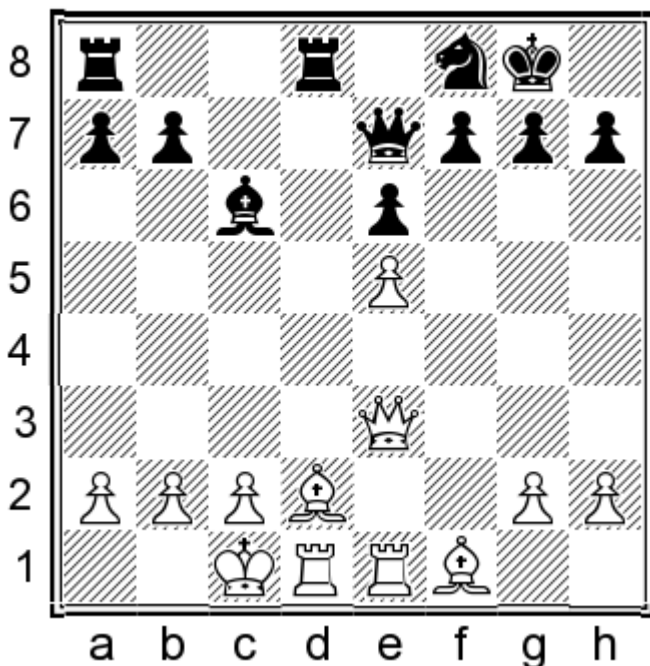
17.h4!? Nb6 (17...Rfc8 - 36/256; 17...Qc5 18.Qxc5 Nxc5 19.h5 (19.Bb4 - 42/(227)) 19...b5 20.Be2 Rac8 21.h6 g6 22.Be3 Ne4 (22...Bxg2 23.Rh2 Bd5 24.Bxb5²) 23.Bd3 Ng3 24.Rhe1 a6 25.Bg5²) 18.Bd3 Rfd8 19.Qf4 Qc7 20.Rh3!? Nd7 21.Rg3 Qxe5 22.Qf2 Qf6 23.Qe1©

17...Rfd8

17...Nb6 18.Bf1 Rfd8 19.Qf4 (19.Qg4 - 101/(146)) 19...Rac8 20.Bb4 (20.Kb1!?) 20...Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1 Qe8 22.Qd4 (22.Qh4 h6 23.b3 Nd5 24.Bd2 Qf8! 25.Kb2 b5 26.Bd3 Qc5 ∞) 22...Nd5 23.Bd6 Bb5!? 24.Qxa7 b6©

18.Qg4

18.Bf1 Nf8 19.Qe3



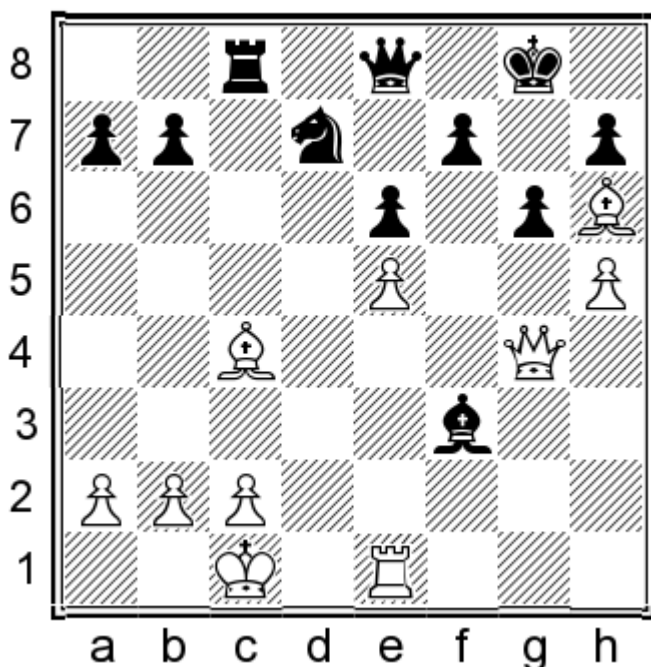
19...Rd5!? (19...a6 20.g3! Rac8 21.Kb1 Ng6 22.Ba5 Rd5 23.Rxd5 Bxd5 24.b3²; 19...Qh4 20.h3 Ng6 21.c4!? Rd4!? 22.g3 (22.g4 Re4,,) 22...Qd8 (22...Rxc4+ 23.Bc3 Qe4 24.Qd2! Qd5 25.Qxd5 Rxc3+ 26.bxc3 Bxd5 27.c4±) 23.Bc3 Rxd1+ 24.Rxd1²; 19...Ng6!? 20.g3 Qc7 (20...b5 21.h4,, - 76/ (201)) 21.Bb4 Rxd1+ 22.Kxd1 Rc8 23.Bd3 Bb5 24.Bd6 Qa5 25.Qd2 Qa6 26.Bxb5 Qxb5 27.Kc1 a5,,) 20.c4 (20.Bc3 b6 21.Rxd5 Bxd5 22.b3 Rc8 23.Bb2 Qb7 =) 20...Rd7 21.Bc3 b6 22.Rxd7 Qxd7 23.Qd2 (23.Rd1 Qb7 24.g3 b5,,) 23...Qb7 24.h4 b5 25.cxb5 (25.g4 bxc4 26.Bxc4 Bd5! 27.Bxd5 exd5³) 25...Bxb5 26.h5 h6 27.g4 Nh7,,

18...Nb6

18...Nf8 19.h4!? (19.Bf1 Qc5! 20.Bc3 (20.Qb4 Qf2 21.Qf4 Qb6 22.Qe3 Ng6 23.g3 Rd5 - 64/204) 20...Ng6 21.Qg5 Rd5 22.Rxd5 Bxd5 = - 57/200) 19...Qc5 20.Bc3 Qf2 (20...h5 21.Qe2 Bxg2?! 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Bd3! Bh3 24.Qxh5f - 56/215; 20...Bd5 21.Bd3 Bxa2 (21...a5 22.h5f - 93/161) 22.h5© Δh6 23.Bb4 Qc7 24.Bxf8 (24.Re3→) 24...Kxf8 25.Qb4+ Kg8 26.Qe4 Kf8 27.Rf1! Bd5 28.Qh7 Qxe5 29.Bg6±; 20...Rxd1+!? 21.Rxd1 Qf2 22.Rf1 Qe3+ 23.Kb1 Rd8 24.a3 b5,,) 21.Rd6 Qxg2 (21...Ng6!? 22.g3 Rdc8 23.Rf1 Qe3+ 24.Kb1 Qe4,,) 22.Qd4 Rdc8 23.Bd2 Qh2! (23...Ng6 24.h5f - 59/ 233) 24.Re2 (24.Bd3 Ng6³) 24...Qh1+ 25.Re1 Qh2 = - 59/(233)

18...Nc5!? 19.Bg5 Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 Qf8 21.Qh4 Nd7 (21...Re8 22.Rd4 Nd7 23.Bd3 g6 24.Bh6 Qe7 25.Qf4² - 70/(194)) 22.Re1 (22.Be7 Qb8 23.Bd3 h6

24.Bd6 Qd8 25.Qxd8+ (25.Qf4 Qg5) 25...Rxd8 26.g3 Rc8 27.b3 Bf3 28.Rd2 Nc5 29.Be2 (29.Bf1 g5,,) 29...Bxe2 30.Rxe2 Rc6! 31.Kb2 f5,,) 22...Qe8 (22...Qb4!? 23.Be7 (23.a3 Qa4 24.Bf1 Rc8 25.Kb1!?) 23...Qa4 24.Re3 b5 25.Bd3 Qxh4 26.Bxh4 a6=) 23.Qg4 Rc8 (23...Nf8?! 24.h4 Kh8 25.h5 ± - 70/ (194); 23...Kh8 24.Re3 Rc8 (24...Nf8 25.h4) 25.Bd3 Nf8 26.b3²) 24.h4 (24.Bf6 Qf8 25.Bd3 g6 26.h4 Nxf6 27.exf6 Qh6+ 28.Kb1 Qd2 29.Rxe6 Qf2 30.Qe2 Qxh4∞) 24...b5 (24...Bxg2?! 25.Bh6 g6 26.h5! Bf3



27.Qf4! Qe7 28.Qxf3 Rxc4 29.Qxb7 ±) 25.Bf1 (25.Bd3 Nc5 26.Bf1 Bd5∞) 25...Kh8 26.Qf4 Qf8 27.h5 h6 28.Bh4 b4 29.Qd4 a5 30.g4 Bd5 31.g5 hxg5 32.Bxg5 Qc5=

19.Bg5

19.Bd3 Rxd3 20.cxd3 Ba4,, - 31/258

19.Bb3!? a5!? (19...Qc5 20.c3 (20.Bh6 Rxd1+ 21.Kxd1 Qf8 22.c3 Nd5 23.Kc1 Ne7 ... Nf5) 20...Bb5 (20...Rac8 21.Qh4 h6 22.Re3²) 21.Be3 Rxd1+ 22.Bxd1 Qc4 23.Qxc4 Nxc4 24.Bd4² - 50/223) 20.c3 a4 21.Bg5 (21.Bc2 g6 22.a3 Qc5 23.Qh4 Qc4,,) 21...Rxd1+ 22.Bxd1 Qc5 23.Bf6 (23.Bc2? a3) 23...Qf8∞

19...Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1

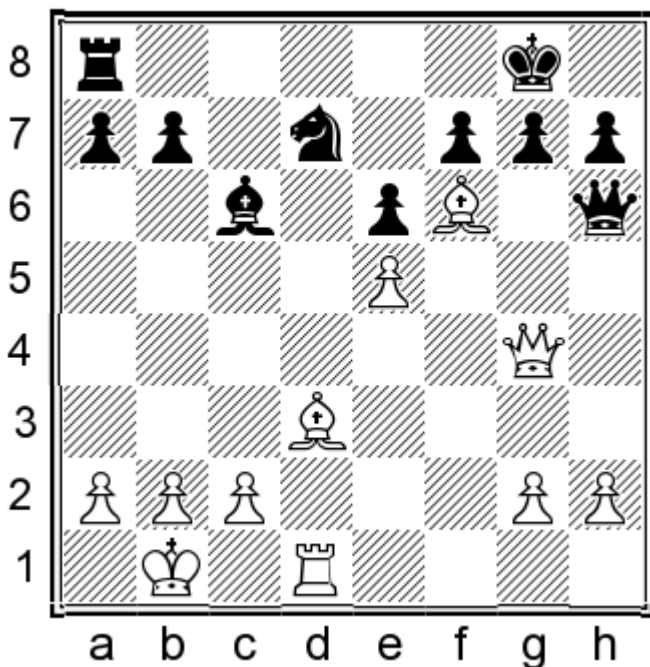
20.Kxd1 Qb4 (20...Qc5) 21.Bxe6 (21.Bf6? Rd8+! 22.Bxd8 Nxc4- +) 21...Qxb2 22.Bb3 h5 23.Qg3 Bd5 24.Qd3 Be6 25.Be3 Qa3 26.Bxe6 Qxd3+

27.cxd3 fxe6 =

20...Qc5 21.Bf6

21.Bd3 Nd7 22.Qh4 Nf8 23.Be7 Qe3+ 24.Rd2 Ng6 25.Bxg6 hxg6 26.Qg3 Qg1+ 27.Rd1 Qxg2 28.Qxg2 Bxg2 29.c4 f6 30.exf6 Kf7 31.Rd7 gxf6 32.Bb4+ Kg8 33.Be7 Rc8 34.Bxf6 Rxc4+ 35.Kd2 =

21...Qe3+ 22.Kb1 Qh6,, 23.Bd3 Nd7



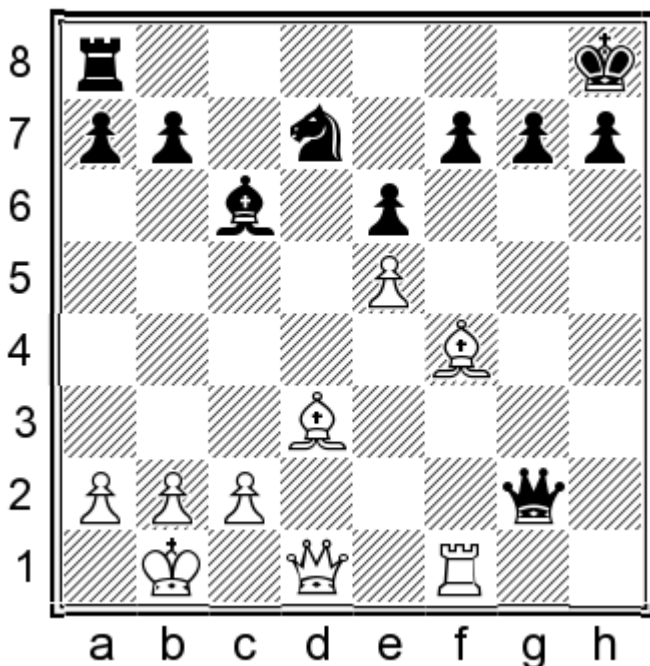
24.Rf1

24.Be4 Nxf6 25.exf6 Qxf6 26.Bxc6 bxc6 27.Qd4 e5 28.Qd6 Qxd6 29.Rxd6 e4 30.Kc1 f5 31.Kd2 f4 32.g3 g5 33.Re6 e3+ 34.Ke2 Kf7 35.Re5! (35.Re4? Re8- +) 35...Kf6 36.gxf4 gxf4 37.Re4 Kg5 38.Kf3 Rf8 39.b4 =

24...Kh8³ 25.Bg5 Qxh2 26.Bf4

26.Qd4 Qxe5 27.Qh4 f5 28.Re1 Qd5 29.Bc4 Qxg2 30.Bxe6 Re8 31.Bxf5 Rxe1+ 32.Qxe1 Nf6! 33.Bxf6 gxf6 34.b4 Qh1μ

26...Qxg2 27.Qd1



27...Nf8N

27...Rc8 28.Rg1 (28.b4 a5 29.bxa5 Nc5 30.Rg1 Qd5- +) 28...Qf3 29.Qd2 Nf8
30.Rf1 Qd5 31.b3 Kg8 32.Qf2 Qg2 33.Qe1 Ng6μ

28.Bc1 Kg8μ 29.Qh5 Ng6 30.Rf4 Qg3 31.Rg4 Qe1 32.Rd4

32.Bxg6 fxg6 33.Qh3 Rd8! 34.Rh4 h5 35.Qxe6+ Kh7 36.Qg4 Rd1- +

32...Re8 33.Bxg6 fxg6 34.Qg5

34.Qh2 g5 35.b3 h6- +

**34...Qf2! 35.Rf4 Qe2 36.Qg3 Be4- + 37.Rf2 Bxc2+ 38.Ka1 Qd1 39.Qf4 Bf5
0-1**

62. B66

Sturt, Raven (2490) - Sargsyan, Shant (2598)

Beograd 148/62, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Qd2
Nc6 9.O-O-O**

9.Bxf6 - 106/216

9...Qxd4 10.Qxd4 Nxd4 11.Rxd4 h6 12.Bh4

12.Bxf6!? gxf6 13.Na4 Bd7 14.Nb6 Rd8 15.Nxd7 Rxd7 16.Be2 h5 17.Rd3²

12...Bd7 13.Bc4

13.Be2 Bc6 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Bh5 Be7 16.f5 Kf8∞

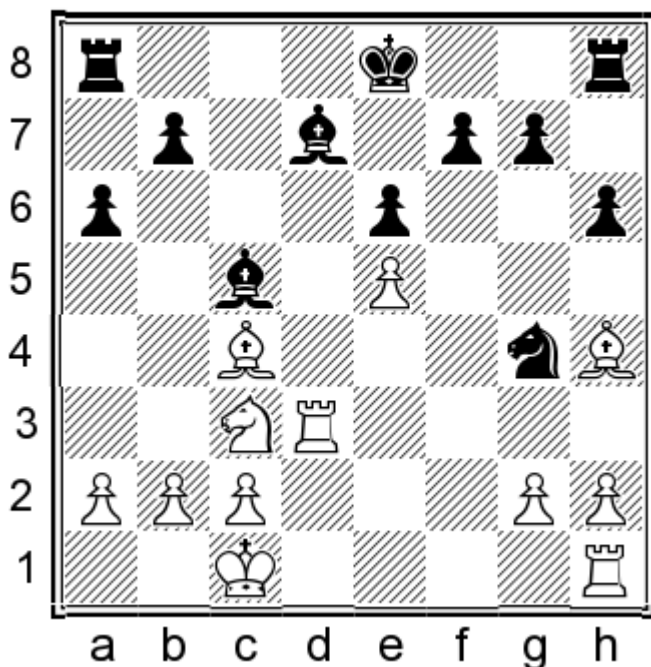
13...Be7 14.e5

14.f5 Ng4 15.Bxe7 (15.Bg3 O-O-O 16.fxe6 fxe6 17.Bxd6 Bf6 18.e5 Nxe5 =)

15...Kxe7 16.Be2 Ne5 17.Rhd1 Bc6 = 18.fxe6 (18.Rxd6 exf5 19.exf5

Bxg2 =) 18...fxe6 19.Rxd6 Rhf8©

14...dxe5 15.fxe5 Bc5 16.Rd3 Ng4



17.Ne4N

17.Re1 Rc8 18.Bb3 g5 19.Bg3 h5 20.h3 h4 21.hxg4 hxg3 22.Ne4 Ke7

23.Red1 Bb5 =

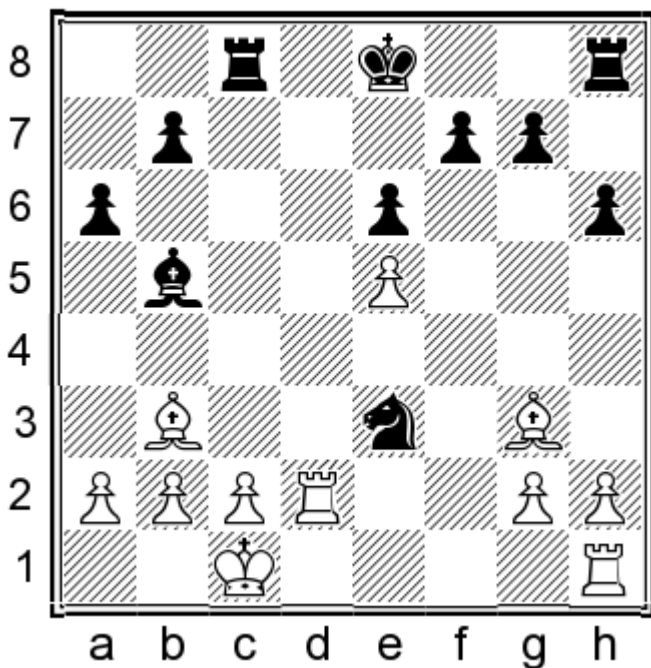
17...Be7 18.Bg3

18.Nd6+ Bxd6 19.Rxd6 Nxe5 20.Rhd1 g5 21.Bg3 Nxc4 22.Rxd7 Ne3³

18...Rc8 19.Bb3 Bb5 20.Nd6+?!

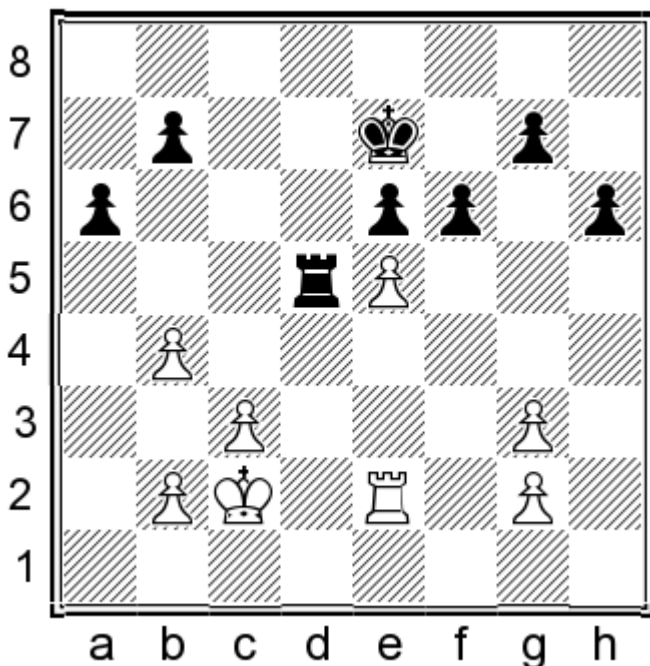
20.Rd2 a5,, 21.c3 (21.a4 Bc4 22.Kb1 Ne3³) 21...a4 22.Bd1 Ne3³

20...Bxd6 21.Rxd6 Ne3 22.Rd2?



22.Bf2 Nxg2 23.a4 (23.Rg1?! Nf4 24.Rxg7 Nd3+- +) 23...Be2! (23...Bc6 24.Rg1 Bf3 25.Rd3 Be4 26.Rd4 Bf3 =) 24.Rg1 Nf4 25.Rxg7! Nd3+ 26.Kd2 Nxf2 27.Kxe2 Ne4 28.Rd4 Nc5³

22...Nf1!μ 23.Rd4 Nxg3 24.hxg3 Rc5μ 25.Re1 Ke7 26.Kd2 Rd8 27.c3 Bc6 28.Re2 Bd5 29.Kd3 Bxb3 30.axb3 Rdd5 31.b4 Rb5 32.Rxd5 Rxd5+ 33.Kc2 33.Kc4 f6 34.exf6+ gxf6 35.Kf4 Rf5+ 36.Kg4 Rf1 37.Kh5 Kf7- + 33...f6



34.c4?!

34.exf6+ Kxf6μ

34...Rd4- +

34...Rxe5? 35.Rxe5 fxe5 36.Kd3 h5 37.Ke4 Kf6 38.g4! hxg4 39.g3 g6 40.b3 g5 41.c5 =

35.Kc3 Rg4 36.exf6+ gxf6 37.Re3 e5 38.b3 Rd4!?

38...h5; 38...Ke6

39.Re1 Ke6 40.Rh1 Rg4 41.Rh3 Kf5 42.Kd3 Kg5 43.Ke3 f5 44.Kf3 Rd4 45.Ke2 e4 46.g4 fxg4 47.Rc3 Rd3 48.Rxd3 exd3+ 49.Kxd3 Kf4 50.c5 h5 51.Kc4 h4 52.b5 axb5+ 53.Kxb5 h3 0-1

63. B66

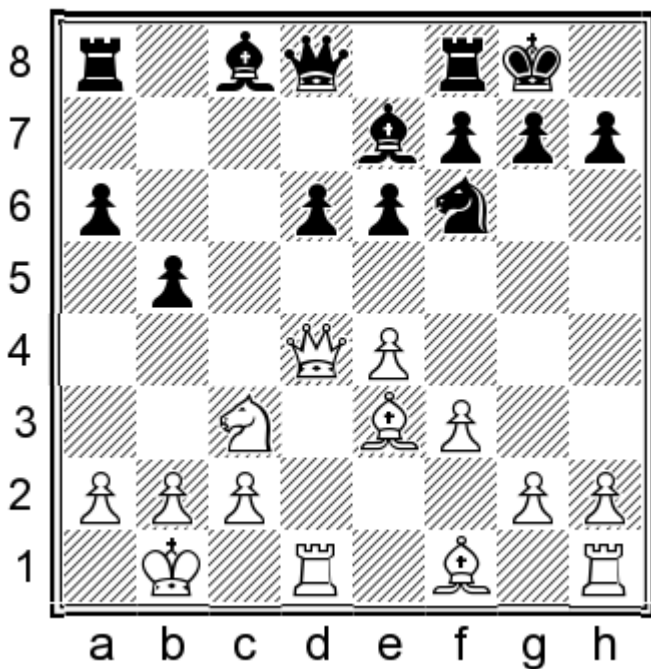
Sadzikowski, Daniel (2527) - Socko, Bartosz (2618)

Polska (ch-m/1) 148/63, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 Be7 8.O-O-O Nxd4 9.Qxd4 O-O 10.f3 a6 11.Be3

11.h4 - 110/(101)

11...b5 12.Kb1



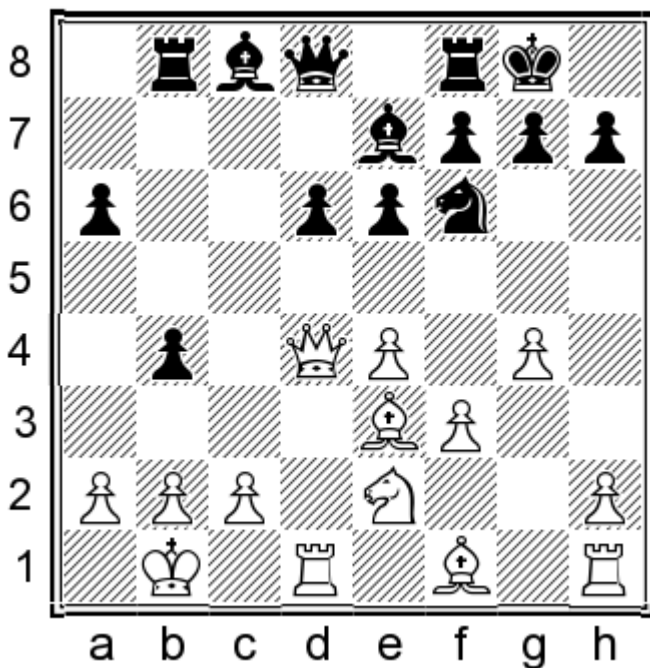
12...Rb8N

12...Bb7

13.g4

13.e5! dxe5 (13...b4 14.exd6 bxc3 15.dxe7 Rxb2+ 16.Ka1 Qxe7 17.Qxc3 Rb7 18.Bc5 ±) 14.Qxe5 Bd7 (14...Nd7 15.Qg3 Bb7 16.Bd4 g6 17.h4 ±) 15.g4²

13...b4 14.Ne2



14...e5

14...Nd7! 15.Ng3 (15.h4 Ne5 16.Rh3 a5 ∞) 15...Qc7 16.Nh5 e5 17.Qd2 Nc5 ∞

15.Qd2 Be6 16.g5 Nh5?

16...Qa5 17.b3 Nd7 18.h4 Rfc8²

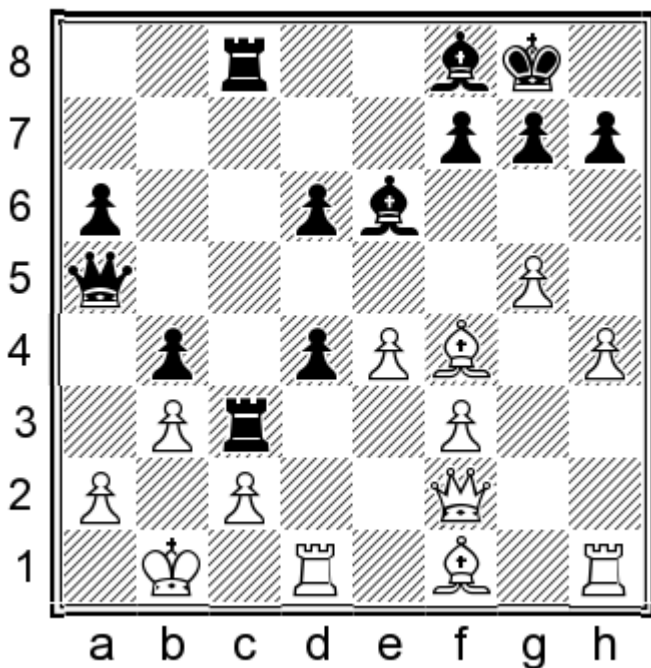
17.Ng3 Nf4 18.h4 Qa5 19.b3 Rfc8 20.Nf5 Bf8 21.Nd4

21.h5 d5 (21...Rc3 22.Bxf4 exf4 23.Qxf4 Rbc8 24.Rh2 ±) 22.Bxf4 exf4 23.Nd4 dxe4 24.Qxf4 ±

21...exd4 22.Bxf4 Rc3 23.Qf2?

23.Qxd4 g6 24.Bd3 Rc6 (24...Bg7 25.Qxd6 Ra8 26.e5 ±) 25.Rhe1 Bg7 26.e5 ±

23...Rbc8



24.Bd3?!

24.Rh2

24...Qc5 25.Bc1 a5 26.f4 a4 27.Bb2?

27.f5 Bxb3! (27...axb3 28.fxe6 bxc2+ 29.Bxc2 Rxc2 30.Qxf7+ Kh8 31.e7! Bxe7 32.Bb2∞) 28.cxb3 axb3 29.Qb2 (29.axb3 Rxb3+ 30.Bb2 Ra8 31.Qc2 (31.Rh2 d5! 32.exd5 Qxd5 33.g6 Rc3-+) 31...Rc3! 32.Bxc3 (32.Qe2 b3-+) 32...bxc3-+) 29...Ra8 30.axb3 d5 31.e5 Ra3 32.Bc2 Rxc2 33.Qxc2 Ra1+ 34.Kxa1 Qxc2 35.Rxd4 Qxb3³

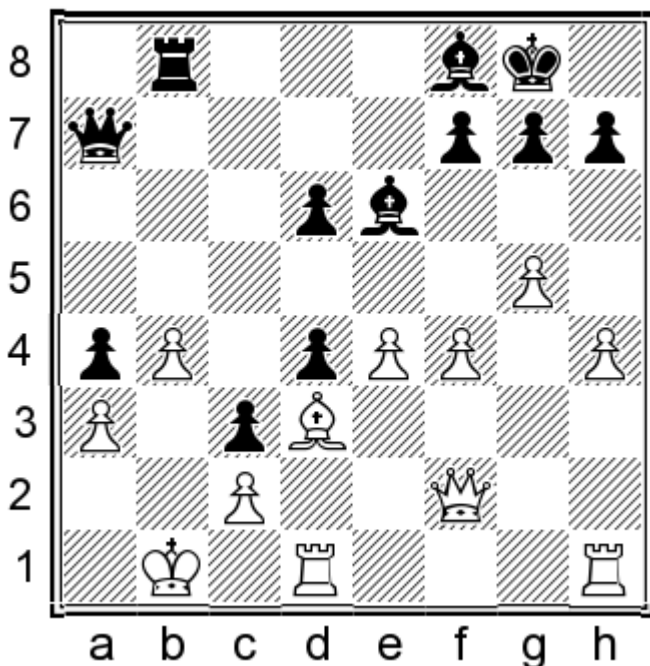
27...Qa7 28.Bxc3?

28.Rh2 axb3 29.cxb3 Ra8 30.Bxc3 bxc3 31.Qc2 Rb8 32.f5 Bxb3 33.axb3 Qa4 34.Qa2 Rxb3+ 35.Ka1 Ra3 36.Rb1 Rxa2+ 37.Rxa2 Qe8μ

28...bxc3 29.b4

29.Ka1 axb3 30.cxb3 Bxb3 31.Rb1 Rb8-+

29...Rb8 30.a3



30...Qc5??

30...Rxb4+!! 31.axb4 a3 32.Ka1 a2 ... Qa3-+

31.Rdg1 d5 32.e5 Qa7

32...Qa5 33.Kc1 Bxb4 34.axb4 Qxb4 35.Kd1 Qb1+ 36.Ke2 Bg4+ 37.Rxg4 Qxh1 38.Rg1 Qh3 39.f5 +- -

33.Kc1

33.Ka1! +- -

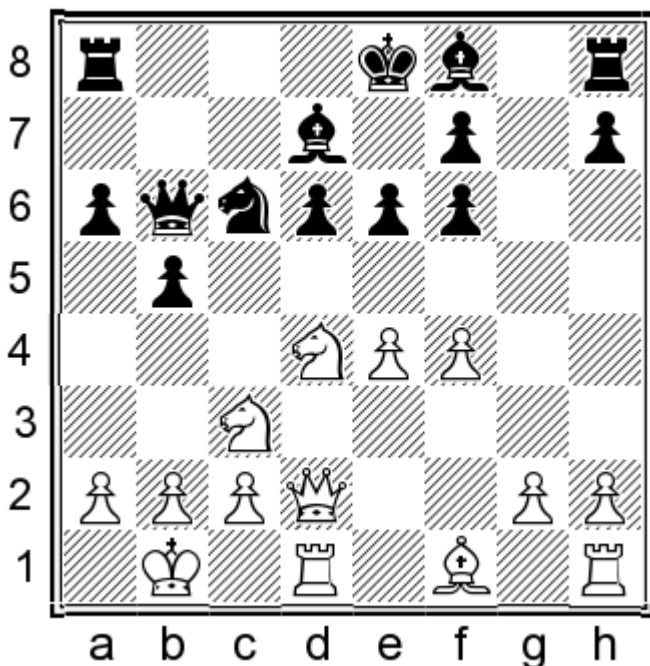
33...Bxb4! 34.axb4 a3 35.Kd1 a2 36.Ke2 a1=Q 37.Rxa1 Bg4+ 38.Kf1 Qxa1+ 39.Kg2 Qa7 40.b5 g6 41.Rb1 Qc5 42.Kg3 ± 1/2-1/2

64. B67

Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2625) - Vokhidov, Shamsiddin (2529)
chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/64, 2021

1.Nf3 c5 2.e4 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Bd7 7.Qd2 a6
8.O-O-O e6 9.f4 b5 10.Qe1

10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Kb1 Qb6



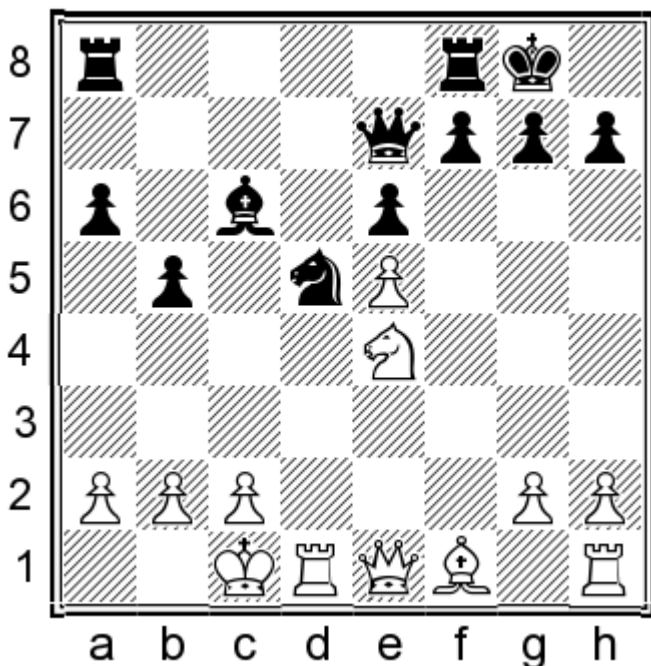
12.Nxc6 (12.Nf3 b4 13.Ne2 h5 14.f5 e5 15.Nc1 Na5 16.Nb3 Bc6!?
 (16...Nxb3 - 128/(66)) 17.Qe1 Nb7 18.Nbd2 a5 19.Nc4 Qc5,,) 12...Bxc6 13.f5
 (13.Qe1 - 142/60) 13...b4 (13...Qc5 - 144/48; 13...h5 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Bd3
 (15.Qf4 - 117/62) 15...O-O-O 16.Ne2 Kb8 (16...Qc5?! 17.Rhf1 Qe5
 18.Qa5±) 17.Rhf1 f5!? 18.Qc3!? Rh6 19.Qd4 Qc7 20.exf5 Bxg2∞) 14.Ne2
 e5 15.Ng3 h5 (15...Qc5 16.Nh5 Be7 17.Bd3 O-O-O!? 18.Qe2 d5∞) 16.Bc4!?
 (16.h4 Qc5 17.Qe2 Ke7 18.Nxh5 Bb5 19.Qg4 Bh6 20.Bd3 Rhg8 21.Qe2
 Qe3©) 16...h4 17.Nf1 Bxe4 18.Qe2 Bxf5 19.Ne3 Be6 20.Qf3 (20.Bxe6 fxe6
 21.Qf3 O-O-O 22.Qxf6 Rh6 23.Qg5 Qc7 24.Qg4 Qc5∞) 20...Qd8 (20...Rc8 -
 138/88) 21.Qc6+ Bd7 22.Qe4 Qc8 23.Rhf1 Be7 24.Nf5 Bxf5 25.Rxf5©

10...Be7

10...Nxd4 11.Rxd4 Qb6 12.Rd2 Be7 (12...b4 13.Nd1 Bc6 14.Bd3² - 21/371)
 13.Bd3 b4 14.Nd1 Bb5,, - 22/453

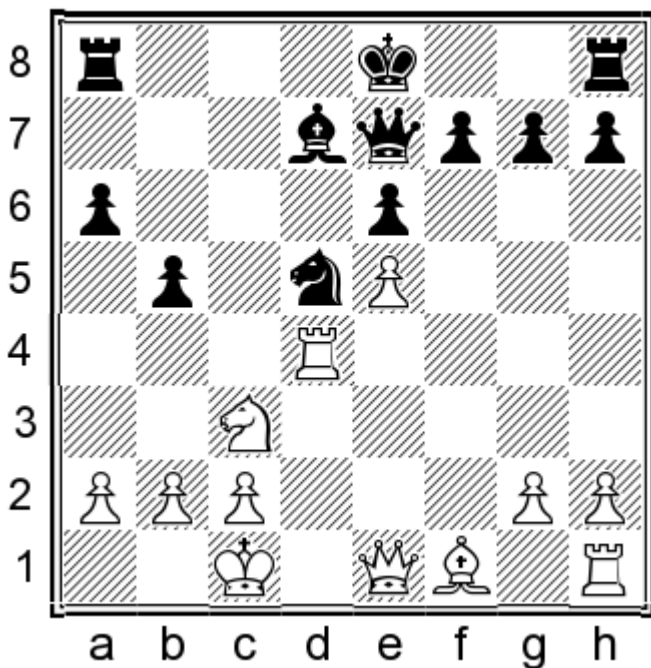
11.e5

11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.e5 Nd5 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Ne4 (14.Nxd5 Bxd5 15.f5 Qg5+
 16.Kb1 Qxf5 17.exd6 O-O³) 14...dxe5 15.fxe5 O-O



16.Qg3 (16.Bd3 Nf4 (16...Nb4? 17.Nf6+! gxf6 18.Bxh7+! +-) 17.Rf1 Ng6
 18.Qg3 Qh4,,) 16...Kh8 (16...Nb4 17.Nf6+ Kh8 18.Nh5 Rg8 19.a3 Nd5
 20.Nf4 (20.Rd4 Qc5³ 21.Rh4 b4→) 20...b4 21.Nxd5 Bxd5 22.a4 Qd7 23.b3
 Qc7 24.Kb1 Rgc8 25.Bd3 Qc3 26.Qf2 Qxe5 27.Qxf7 Bxb3 28.cxb3 Rc3
 29.Bc4 Qe4+ 30.Ka1 Rxc4=) 17.Bd3 (17.c3 f5 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Bd3 e5
 20.Rhe1 f5 21.Ng5 Rae8,,) 17...Nb4 18.Nd6 f6 (18...Nxa2+? 19.Kb1 Nb4
 20.Bxh7! Kxh7 21.Rd4 +-) 19.Rhe1 Nxd3+ 20.Rxd3 f5 21.Rf1 a5 22.Rf4 b4
 23.h4 Bd5 ∞ 24.Nxf5?! Qf7! 25.Rxd5 exd5 26.e6 Qg6³

11...Nxd4 12.Rxd4 dxe5 13.fxe5 Nd5 14.Bxe7 Qxe7

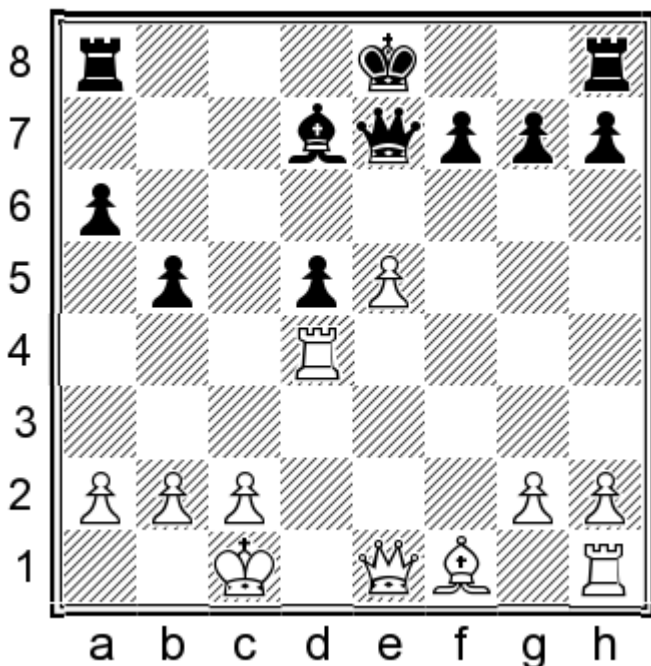


14...Nxe7 15.Bd3 Qb6 16.Rg4 Ng6 17.Qg3 O-O-O 18.Ne4 ±

15.Nxd5

15.Ne4!? O-O 16.Bd3f ΔKh8 17.Rf1! f5 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Ng5! fxg5 20.Rxd5
Rxf1 21.Bxf1 Be8 22.Bd3 Bg6 23.Bxg6 hxg6 24.Qe5+ Kh7 25.Rd6 ±

15...exd5



16.Bd3N

16.Qg3 O-O 17.Bd3 Rac8 (17...b4 18.Qh4! Qxh4 19.Rxh4 ±) 18.Kb1 (18.Rxd5 Be6 19.Rd4 Qc5 20.Qh4 g6,,) 18...Rfe8 19.Re1 Rc5 20.a3²

16...Be6 17.Qg3 O-O 18.Rh4² g6 19.Rf1 f5

19...d4? 20.Rf6! Bxa2 21.Qg5 Rfe8 22.Rh5 + -; 19...Rae8 20.Rf6 Kh8 21.Qg5 Rg8 22.a3 Bc8 23.Rd4 Qxe5 24.Qxe5 Rxe5 25.Rxf7 Bf5 26.g3 Rg7 27.Rf6 Bxd3 28.Rxd3 Ra7 29.c3 ±

20.exf6 Rxf6 21.Re1

21.Rxf6 Qxf6 22.Rf4 Qg7 23.a3

21...Raf8 22.Rd4 Qc5

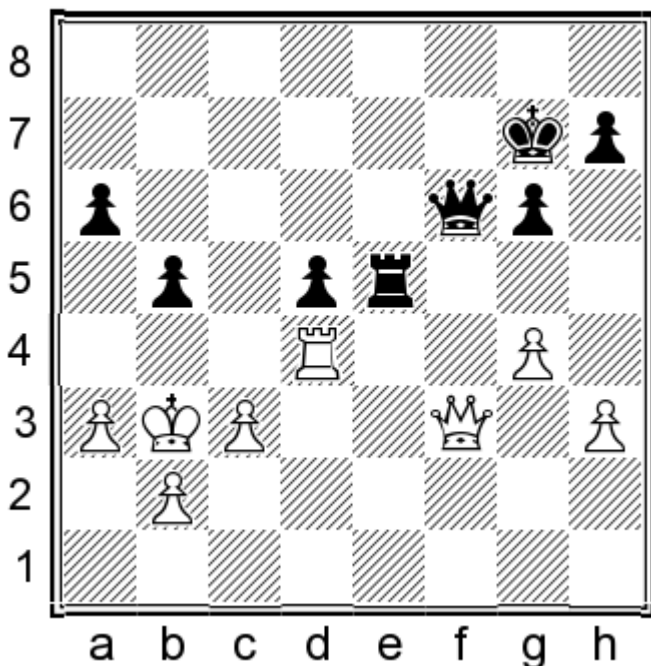
22...Qg7 23.h3 Rf2 24.Qe3 R8f6 25.g4²

23.c3 Bf5 24.Re2 Bxd3 25.Qxd3 Rf1+ 26.Kc2 R1f2 27.Qd2 Rxe2 28.Qxe2 Qd6 29.h3 Rf7 30.a3 Kg7 31.Kb3 Re7 32.Qf3

32.Qd3 Re5 33.a4 Qc5 34.axb5 axb5 35.g4 Qc4+ 36.Ka3 Qc5+ 37.Ka2 ... Rb4

32...Re5 33.Qf4

33.a4 bxa4+ 34.Kxa4 (34.Rxa4 Qe6 ... Re4) 34...Re4 35.Rxe4 Qc6+ 36.Kb3 dxe4 37.Qe3 Kf7 =; 33.g4 Qf6



34.Qg3!? (34.Qd3 Qf2 35.Rxd5 (35.Ka2 Re2,,) 35...Qf7 36.c4 bxc4+ 37.Kxc4 Qc7+ 38.Kd4 Rxd5+ 39.Kxd5 Qb7+ 40.Kc5 Qxb2 41.a4 h5; 34.Qd1 Qf2 35.Ka2 Qh2! (35...Re2 36.Qb3) 36.Rd3 Qf4 37.Qb3 Qf1 38.Rxd5 Rxd5 39.Qxd5 Qxh3 40.Qd4+ Kh6 =) 34...Qe6 35.g5 ΔQf5 36.h4 Qe6 37.a4 bxa4+ 38.Kxa4 h6 39.gxh6+ Kxh6 40.Qf4+ Kg7 41.Kb3 Qe8 42.Rb4 Re4 43.Qd6²

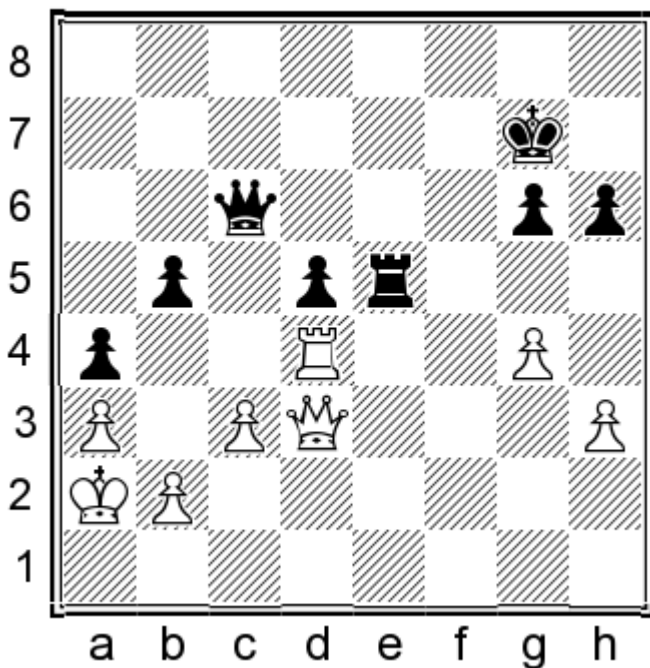
33...Qe6 34.g4 h6 35.Ka2!? a5

¹35...g5 36.Qh2 h5

36.Qd2 a4?!

36...g5 37.Qd1 Qc6 38.a4²; 36...Qc6 37.Qd3 Kf7 38.Qf1+ Kg7 39.Qd1 g5 40.Qb3²

37.Qd3 Qc6



38.h4

38.Rb4! Qe6 39.Qd4 ±

38...Qe8?!

38...Re4 39.g5 Rxd4 40.Qxd4+ Kh7

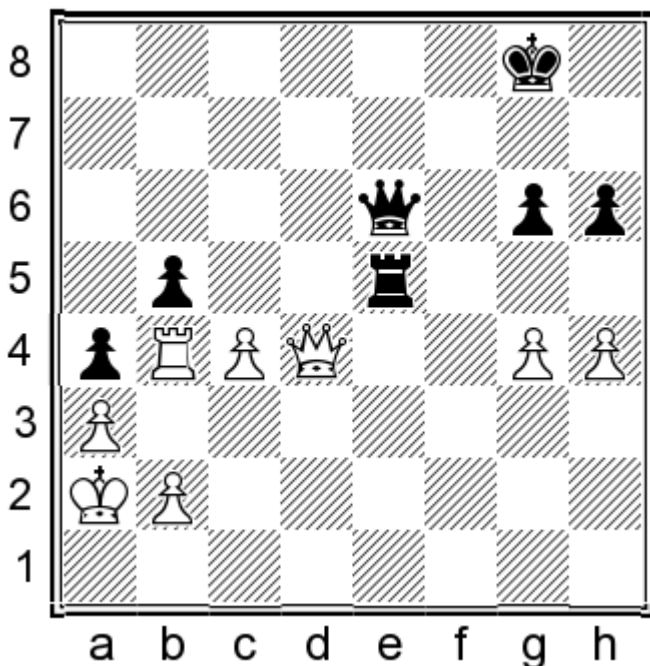
39.Rb4 ± Qe6 40.Qd4 Qe8 41.Qa7+

41.h5 gxh5 42.gxh5 Kg8 43.Qg1+ Kh7 44.Qa7+ Kg8 45.Qa5 ±

41...Kg8 42.Qc5?!†

42.Qd4 Kh7 43.h5 ±

42...d4! 43.Qxd4 Qe6+ 44.c4



44...Re4?†

44...Kh7 45.Kb1 Re1+ 46.Ka2 Re5 47.Qf2 Kg7 =

45.Qd8+ Kf7 46.Qc7+ Kf6

46...Kg8 47.Qb8+ Kg7 48.Qxb5 +-

47.Qd8+ Kf7 48.Qc7+ Kf6 49.g5+

49.Rxb5 Qxc4+ 50.Qxc4 Rxc4 51.Rb4 +-

49...hxc5 50.hxc5+ Kxc5 51.Rxb5+ Kh6

51...Kg4 52.Rd5 Rf4 53.Qc5 +-

52.Rb4 +- g5 53.Rxa4 g4 54.Rb4 Kg5 55.Rb5+ Kg6 56.Rb6 1-0

65. B69

Grandelius, Nils (2670) - Artemiev, Vladislav (2709)

tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/65, 2021

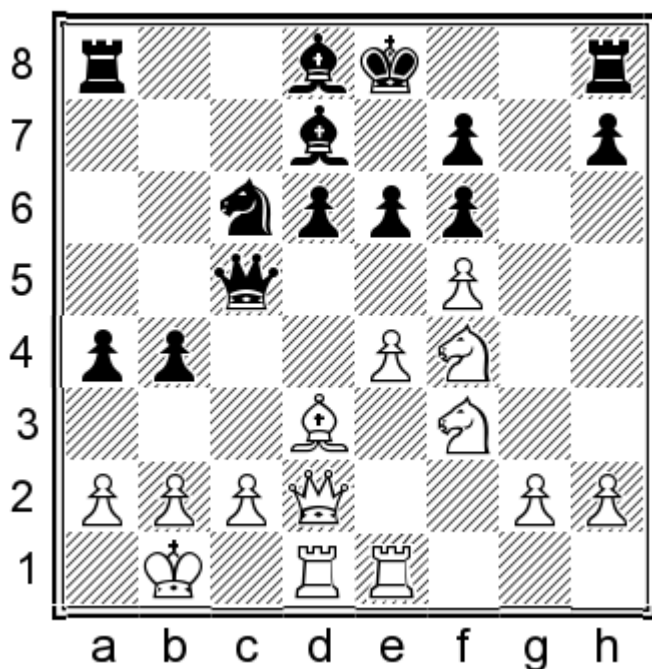
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Bd7 7.Qd2 a6
8.O-O-O e6 9.f4 Be7 10.Nf3 b5 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Kb1 Qb6 13.Bd3 b4!?

13...O-O-O

14.Ne2 a5 15.f5 a4 16.Nf4 Qc5 17.Rhe1!

17.Nh5 - 57/(212)

17...Bd8?

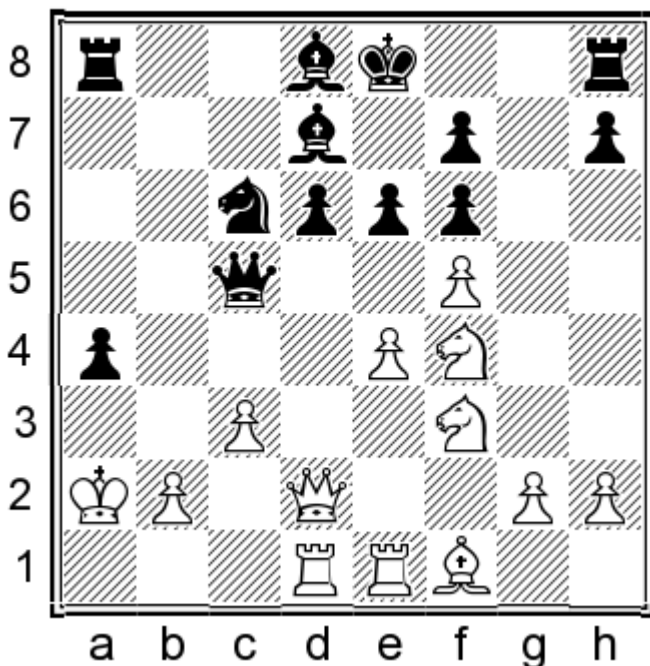


17...Ne5 18.Be2 a3 19.b3 Nxf3 20.Bxf3 Rc8 21.Bg4²

18.Bf1N

18.Nh5! h6 (18...b3 19.cxb3 axb3 20.a3 Ne5 21.Ng7+ Ke7 22.fxe6 fxe6 (22...Ba5 23.Qh6 Nxd3 24.Nf5+ Kd8 25.Qxf6+ Kc7 26.N3d4! +-; 22...Bxe6 23.Nxe5 dxe5 24.Nxe6 fxe6 25.Qh6 Rf8 26.Rc1 +-) 23.Nxe5 Qxe5 24.Nf5+! Kf7 (24...Ke8 25.Qh6 +-) 25.Qh6 exf5 26.Bc4+ Be6 27.Rd5! +-) 19.Bb5! Be7 20.Bxc6 Bxc6 21.Nd4 ±

18...b3! 19.c3 bxa2+ 20.Kxa2



20...Rb8?!

20...Be7! 21.Nd4 Nxd4 22.cxd4 Qa5 23.Qf2 Qb4 24.Re3 Rb8 25.Rd2 ±

21.fxe6 fxe6 22.Qxd6! Qxd6 23.Rxd6 Bc7 24.Rxe6+ Bxe6+ 25.Nxe6 Bd6

25...Be5 26.Rd1 Ke7 27.Nc5 Rhd8 28.Rxd8 Rxd8 29.Bb5 ±

26.Rd1 Kd7

26...Ke7 27.Ng7 Be5 28.Nf5+ Ke8 29.Rd5 ±

27.Ng7

27.Nc5+ Ke7 28.Nxa4 ±

27...Kc7 28.Ne6+ Kd7 29.Ng7 Kc7 30.Ne6+ Kd7 1/2-1/2

66. B69

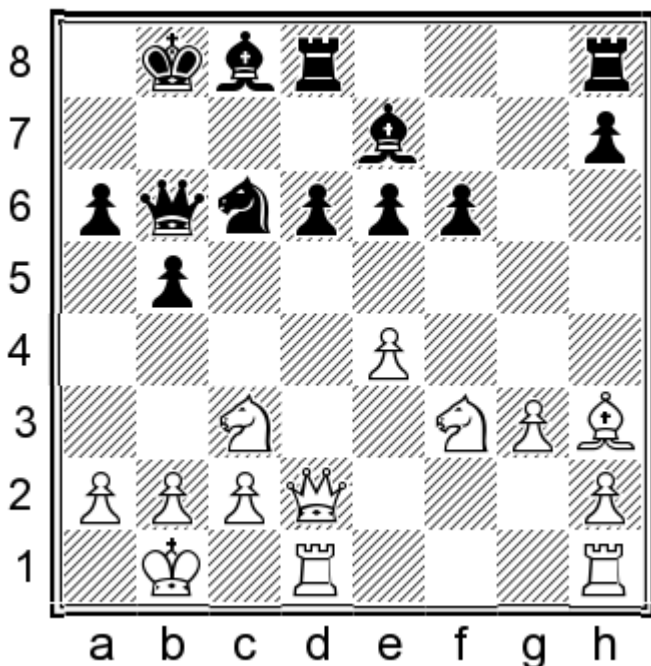
Zhao, Jun (2638) - Xu, Xiangyu (2573)

China (ch) 148/66, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 a6 8.O-O-O Be7 9.f4 Bd7 10.Nf3 b5 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Kb1 Qb6 13.f5! O-O-O 14.g3

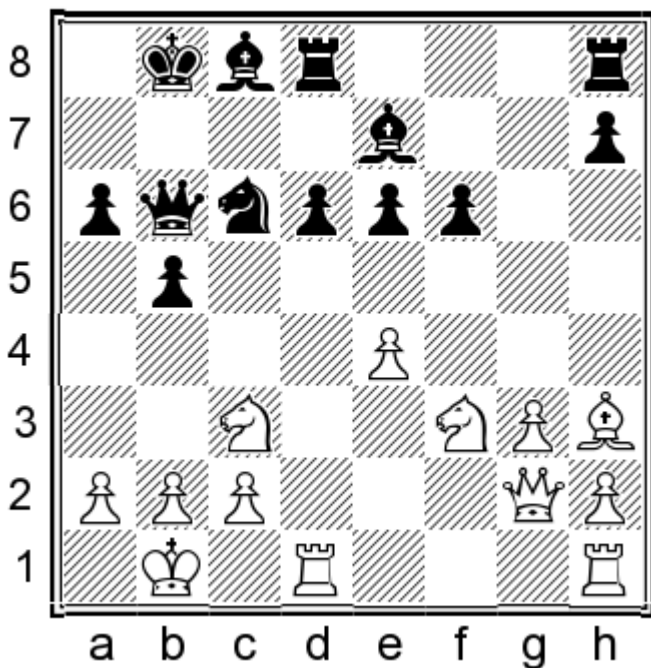
14.Qh6!? Kb8 15.Qh5

14...Kb8 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.Bh3 Bc8?!



16...Na5! 17.Nd4 b4 18.Nce2 e5! 19.Bxd7 Rxd7 20.Nf5 Nc4 21.Qd3 (21.Qd5 Rc8,, - 139/(67)) 21...Rc8 22.Nc1 (22.Ka1 Bf8 23.b3 Na3 24.c4 bxc3 25.Nxc3 d5! 26.Nxd5 Rxd5 (26...Qf2!? 27.Rhf1 (27.Rd2 Qc5 ∞) 27...Nc2+ 28.Kb2 Ba3+ 29.Kb1 Qc5 ∞) 27.exd5 Nc2+ 28.Kb1 Na3+=) 22...a5 23.Nb3 (23.Rhe1 - 146/65) 23...d5 24.exd5 a4 25.Nxe7 (25.Nd2?? Na3+! 26.bxa3 Rc3 27.Qe2 bxa3+ 28.Nb3 axb3 29.cxb3 Rxb3+ 30.Ka1 Rb2- +) 25...Rxe7 26.d6 Rd7 27.Nd2 Na3+!? 28.bxa3 bxa3+ 29.Nb3 axb3 30.Qxb3 Qxb3+ 31.axb3 Rc6 =

17.Qg2?!



17.a3!? Rhe8 18.Rhe1 Ne5 (18...Bf8?! 19.Qf4 Qc7 20.Na2! (20.Ne2?! Bg7,,) 20...Bg7 21.Qe3 Ne5 22.Nd4 ... Nb4 ±) 19.Qf4 Bf8 20.Nxe5 fxe5 21.Qf3²

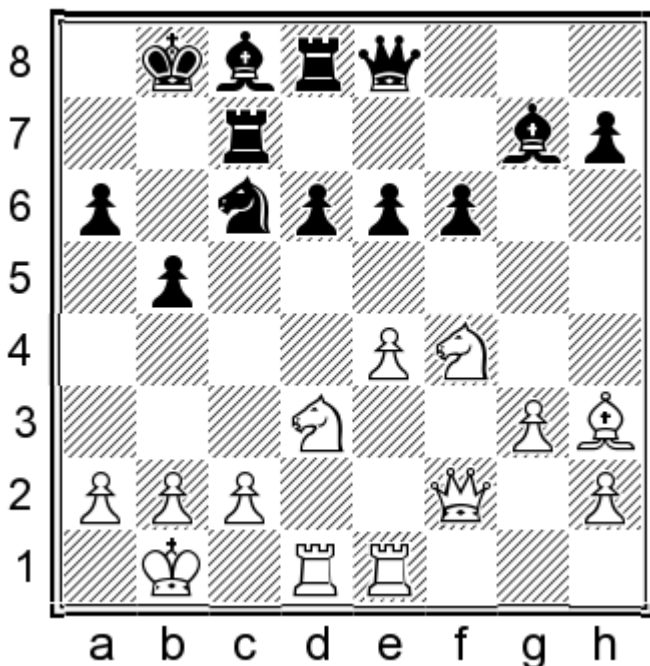
17...Rhe8N

17...Bf8

18.Ne2 Bf8 19.Nf4 Bh6 20.Rhe1 Qc5 21.Nd3 Qh5 22.Qf1! Re7 23.Ng1

23.Bg2 Rc7 24.Qg1! Kb7 25.Nh4 ±

23...Bg7 24.Ne2 Rc7 25.Nef4 Qe8 26.Qf2



26...Bh6??

26...Rb7 27.Bg2 Bd7 28.Nc1 Bf8 ±

27.Qb6+ - Rb7

27...Bb7 28.Nxe6 + -

28.Qxa6 Ne5 29.Nb4 Bf8 30.Nfd3 Bd7 31.Nxe5 dxe5 32.Rxd7 Rxd7
33.Nc6+ Kc7 34.Na5 Rb8 35.Bxe6 Rd2 36.Bd5 Qc8 37.Qc6+ Kd8
38.Qxf6+ Kc7 39.Nc6 Qg4 40.a3 Re8 41.Na7 Qd7 42.Qa6 Rxb2 43.Nxb5+
Kd8 44.Rf1 1-0

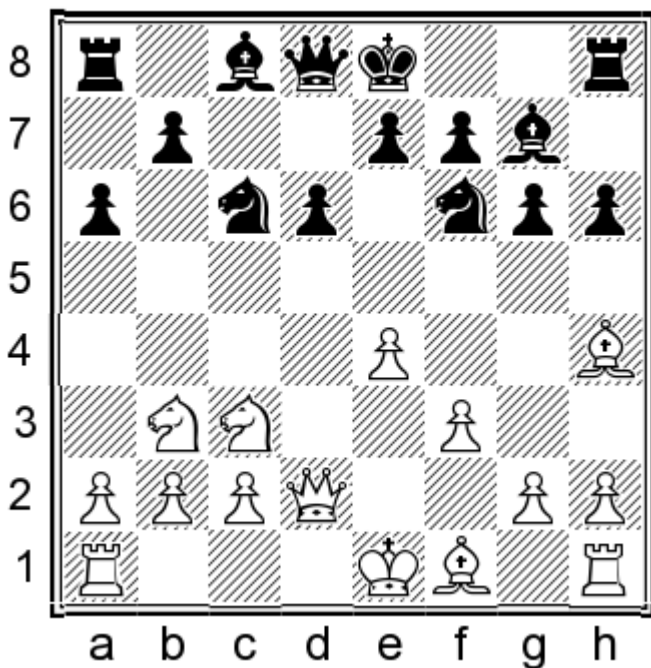
67. B72

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - Jones, Gawain C B (2670)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/67, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.Qd2 Ng4
8.Bg5 h6

8...Nc6 - 95/159

9.Bh4 Nc6 10.Nb3 Nf6 11.f3 a6



11...Bd7; 11...O-O

12.Be2N

12.O-O-O

12...O-O 13.Bf2 Na5

13...Be6!?

14.O-O

14.Be3 h5 15.Na4 Nxb3 16.axb3 b5 (16...Nd7!?) 17.Nb6 Rb8 18.Nxc8 Qxc8
19.O-O Rd8 ∞; 14.O-O-O!?

14...Be6

14...b5!?

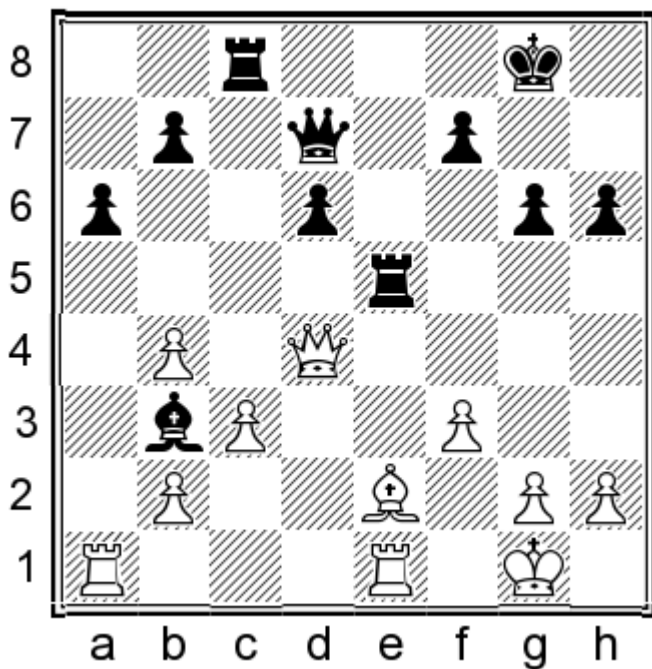
**15.Nd5 Nxb3 16.axb3 Nxd5 17.exd5 Bf5 18.c3 e5 19.dxe6 Bxe6 20.b4 Re8
21.Rfe1 Qd7 22.Bd4 Rac8**

22...Bxd4+ 23.Qxd4 Bb3!?

23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.Rad1 Bb3 25.Qd4+

25.Qxd6 Qa4 (25...Qxd6 26.Rxd6 Rc7 27.Kf2 Rce7 28.Rd4 h5©) 26.Ra1
Rxe2 27.Rxa4 Rxe1+ 28.Kf2 Rce8 29.Qd4+ Kh7©

25...Kg8 26.Ra1 Re5?!



26...Re6 27.Bd3 Rce8 = ; 26...d5!? =

27.f4! Rd5?!

27...Re7 28.Bf3f

28.Qf2 ± [× Rd5] 28...h5 29.Bf3 Rb5

¹29...Rf5

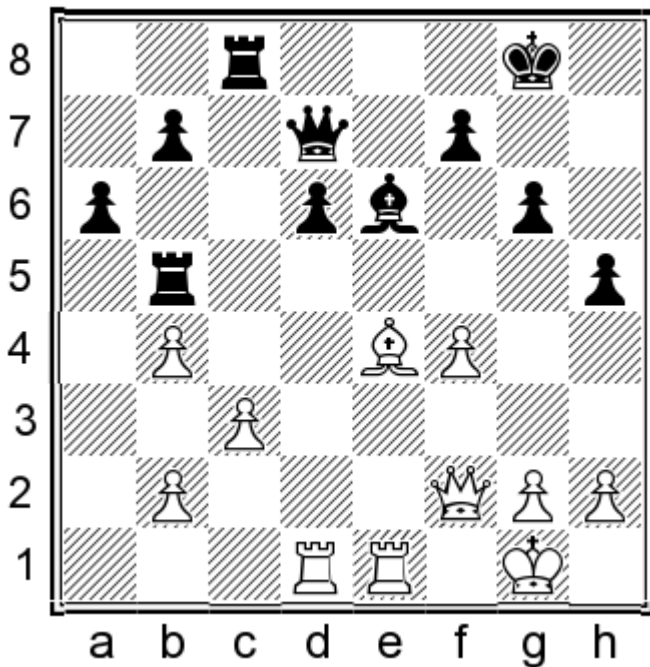
30.Be4

30.Qd4!?

30...Be6?!

30...Re8 ±

31.Rad1



31.Bc2

31...Qc7?

31...Bg4

32.Bxg6 +- Bg4 33.Bd3 Bxd1 34.Bxb5 axb5 35.Rxd1 Re8 36.Rd5 Qc4
 37.Rxh5 Qd3 38.Qg3+ Qxg3 39.hxg3 Re2 40.Rxb5 Rxb2 41.Rxb7 d5
 42.Rd7 1-0

B75-B99

68. B76

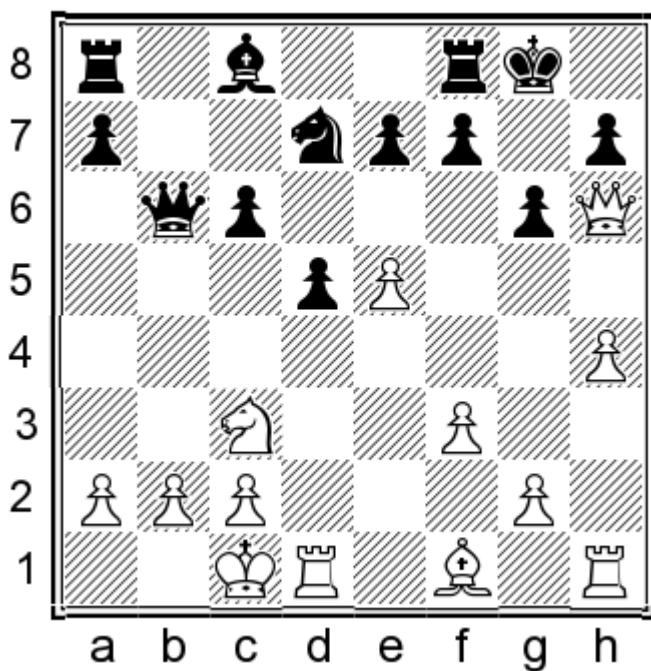
Grandelius, Nils (2670) - Shirov, Alexei (2662)

chess24.com (Int.-m/1-blitz) 148/68, 2021

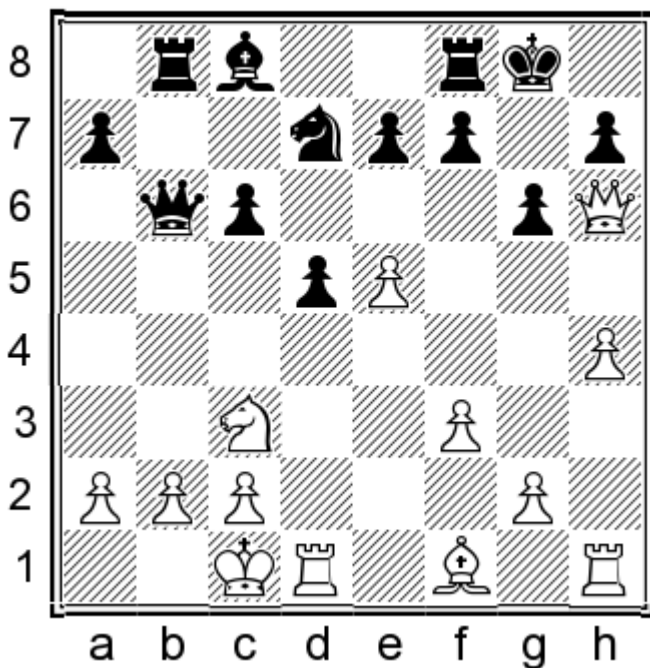
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 O-O
8.Qd2 Nc6 9.O-O-O d5 10.Nxc6!?

10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd4 Bxd4 13.Qxd4 Qb6 14.Na4 Qc7 15.c4 -
148/70

10...bxc6 11.Bh6 Bxh6 12.Qxh6 Qb6 13.e5 Nd7 14.h4!



14...Rb8??



14...Nxe5 15.h5 Bf5 16.g4 f6! 17.Qd2 (17.gxf5?? g5 ... Nf7+; 17.Qf4!? Bd7 (17...Rab8 - 82/195) 18.hxg6 hxg6 19.g5©) 17...Rab8 18.b3∞

15.b3?N

15.Na4! Qb4 16.h5 g5 17.Qxg5+ Kh8 18.Rh4! +-

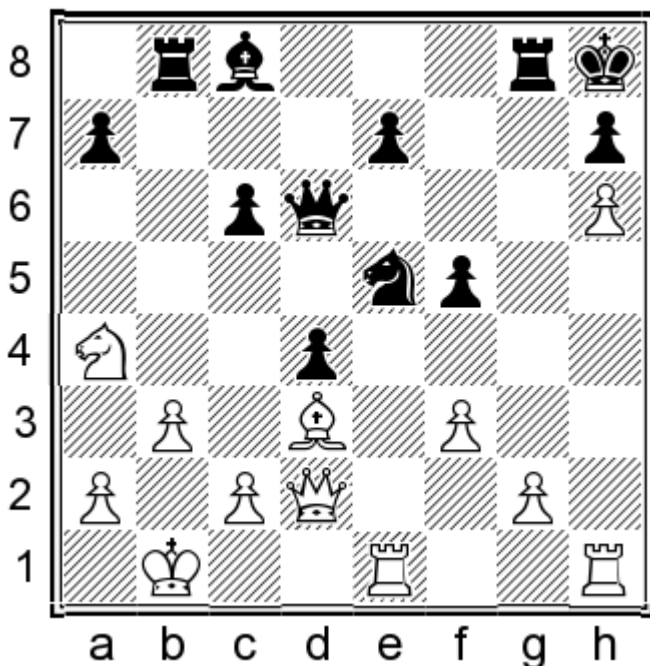
15...Qc5??

15...Nxe5! 16.h5 Bf5 17.g4 f6 18.Qf4 g5 19.Qxf5 Qe3+ 20.Kb2 Rf7 21.Ba6 e6 22.Rd3 exf5 23.Rxe3 d4∞

16.h5! g5 17.Bd3 f5 18.Qxg5+ Kh8 19.h6?

19.Ne2 Rg8 20.Qxf5 +-

19...Rg8 20.Qd2 Nxe5 21.Rde1 d4 22.Na4 Qd6 23.Kb1



23...Nf7?

23...Nxd3 24.Qxd3 Rxc2 25.Re2 Rg6 26.Rhe1²

24.Bc4 e6 25.Re2 Bd7 26.Qa5 Rg6 27.Qxa7 Rbg8 28.Rd1 Rxb6 29.Qxd4+ Qxd4 30.Rxd4 Bc8 31.Nc5 e5 32.Rd1 Rf8 33.Bxf7 Rxf7 34.Rd8+ 1-0

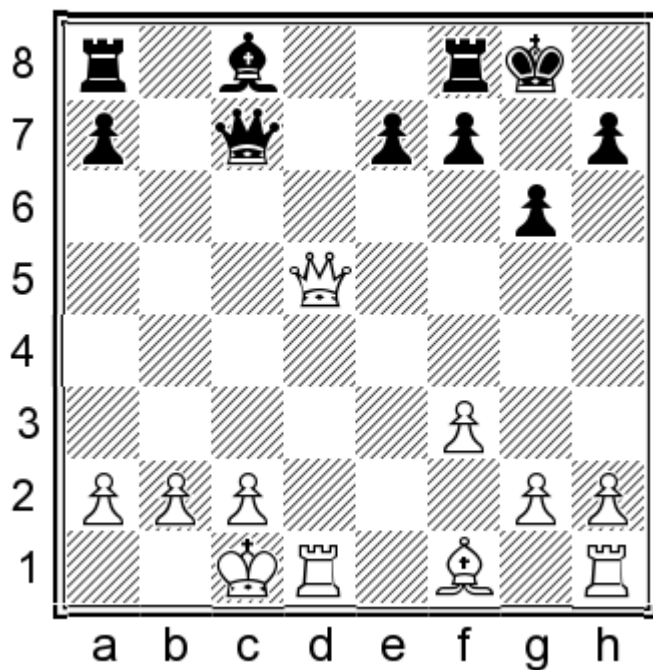
69. B76

Tari, Aryan (2639) - Jones, Gawain C B (2670)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/69, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 O-O 9.O-O-O d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd4 Bxd4 13.Qxd4 Qa5?!

13...Qb6 - 146/67

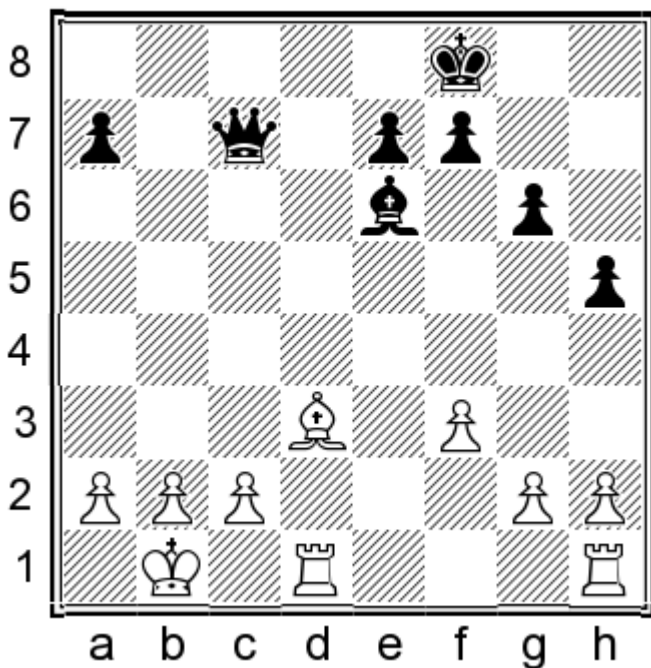
14.Nxd5 cxd5 15.Qxd5 Qc7



16.Qxa8N

16.Qc4

16...Bf5 17.Qxf8+ Kxf8 18.Bd3 Be6 19.Kb1 h5



19...a5!?

20.Be4?!

20.Rde1 Qa5 21.b3 Qb6 22.Re5²; 20.b3!?

20...Qb6

¹20...Qc4 21.b3 Qe2

21.Rhf1

21.Rhe1 ΔQf2? 22.Bxg6 Bxa2+ 23.Kxa2 fxg6 24.c4 +-

21...Qa5?!

21...Qa6 22.b3 Qe2

22.b3 ± Qe5 23.h3 Kg7 24.Rfe1?!

24.Rf2

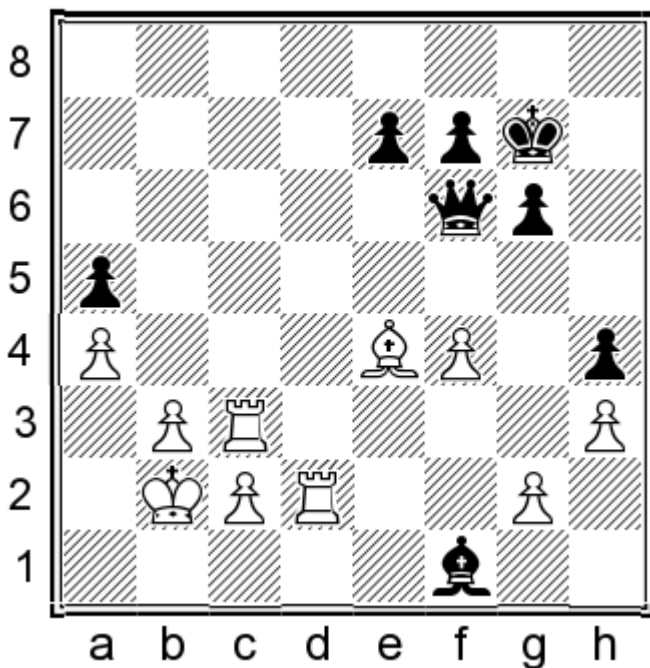
24...Qc3?!

24...Qh2

25.Re2 a5 26.Rd3 Qc5 27.a4 h4 28.Red2 Qb6 29.Kb2 Bc4 30.Rc3

30.Rd4

30...Bf1 31.f4 Qf6



32.Rf2?!

32.Rd1 Qxf4 33.Bf3 Ba6 34.Rd7²

32...Ba6 33.Rf3 Qd4 34.Re3 e6! = 35.Ka2 Bf1 36.Bf3 Qxf4 37.Re4 Qd2
38.Kb2 Qg5 39.Re1 Ba6 40.Rce3

40.Rd1!?

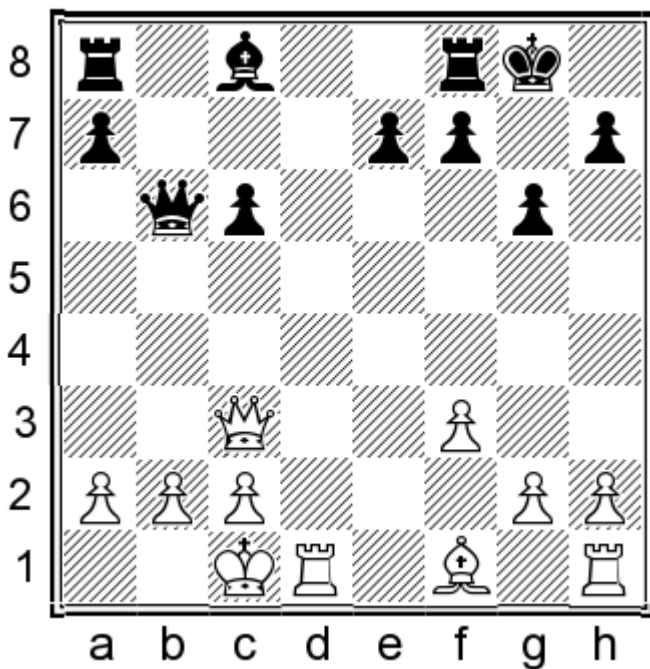
40...Qc5 41.Re5 Qd4+ 42.Kb1 Qc3 43.R5e3 Qd2 44.Re5 Qc3 45.R5e3 Qd2
46.Re5 Qc3 1/2-1/2

70. * B76

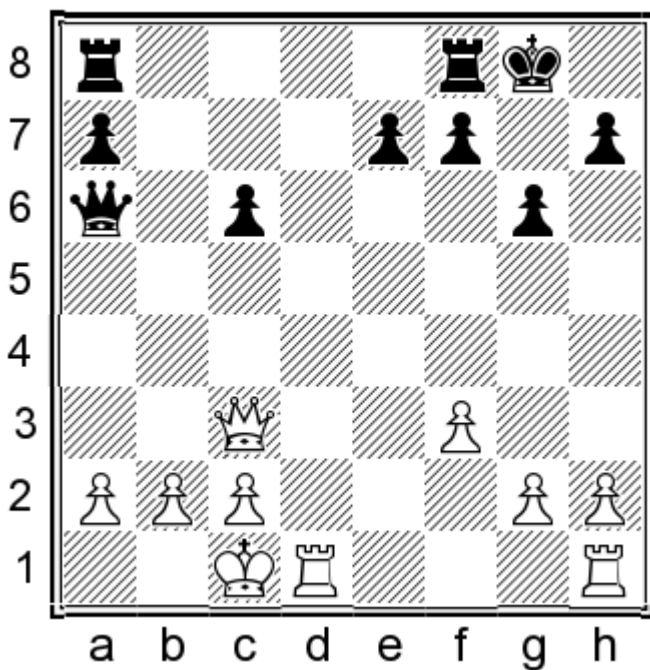
Nakamura, Hikaru (2736) - Jones, Gawain C B (2670)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/70, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2
O-O 9.O-O-O d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd4 Bxd4 13.Qxd4 Qb6
14.Na4

14.Qe5 Nxc3 (14...Be6 - 140/(74)) 15.Qxc3



15...Ba6?!N (15...Be6) 16.Bxa6 Qxa6



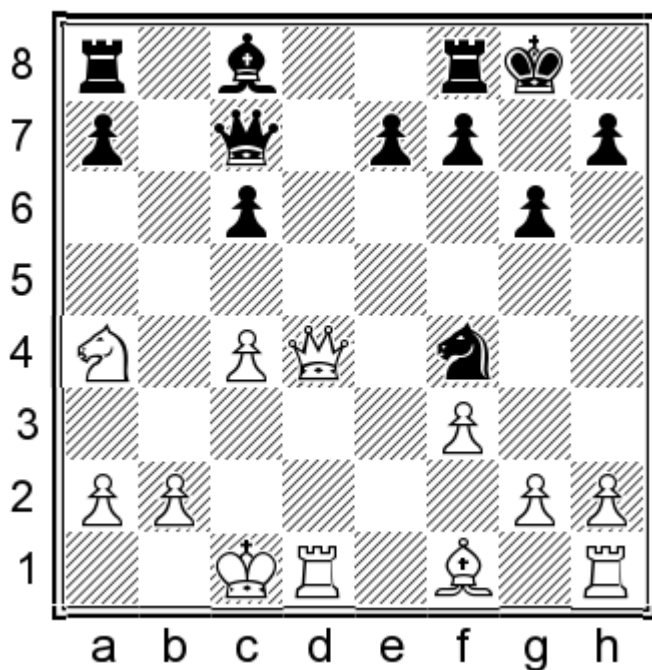
17.Kb1 (17.a3!?) 17...Rfd8 18.Rd2 Rd5 19.Rxd5 cxd5 20.Qe5 Qb7 21.h4 Rc8 22.h5 Qc7 23.Qe2² Christiansen,J (2618) -Jones,G (2670) chess24.com (Int.-

rapid) 148/(70) 2021

14...Qc7 15.c4

15.Nc5 - 135/72

15...Nf4



16.g3N

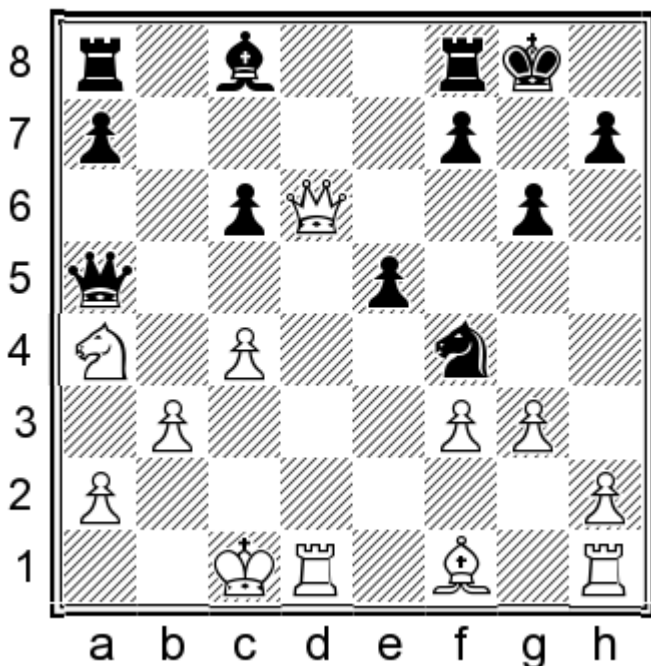
16.Nc5?! Ne6 17.Nxe6 Bxe6f

16...e5?!

16...Ne6 17.Qe3 c5 =

17.Qd6 Qxd6?!

17...Qa5 18.Nc3 (18.gxf4? Qxa4 19.Bd3 (19.Qxe5? Bf5! 20.Bd3 Bxd3 21.Rxd3 Qxc4+- +) 19...Bh3!μ; 18.Qxc6 Be6©; 18.b3



18...Bg4! 19.fxg4 (19.Qxc6 Rad8 =) 19...Rad8©) 18...Ne6 19.Qxc6 Rb8
 20.Rd5 Qb4 21.Rb5 Rxb5 22.Qxb5 Qd6² 23.Ne4 Qd4 24.Qd5 Bb7! 25.Qxd4
 (25.Qxb7? Qe3+ 26.Kc2 (26.Nd2 Rd8- +) 26...Nd4+ 27.Kd1 Qxf3+ 28.Kc1
 Qe3+ 29.Kd1 Rd8- +) 25...Nxd4 26.Bg2 f5 27.Nd6 (27.Nd2 g5 28.Re1 Re8
 29.Bh1 a5 30.Nb3 Nxb3+ 31.axb3 Kf7 32.Kd2 Rd8+ 33.Kc3 Ke6©) 27...Bxf3
 28.Bxf3 Nxf3 29.c5 Rb8! 30.Rd1 (30.c6? Rb6) 30...Nd4 31.Kb1 (... Rd4)
 31...Ne6 32.Rd5 e4 ∞

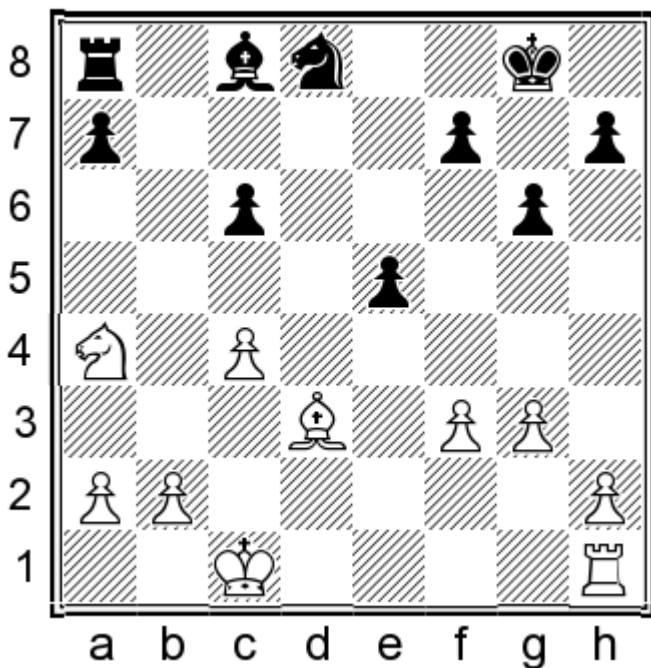
18.Rxd6 Ne6 19.Bd3?

19.Bg2 Nd4 (19...Rd8 20.Rxd8+ Nxd8 21.Re1 f6 22.f4 ±) 20.Re1 ± ... f4

19...Rd8

¹19...Ba6 20.Rxc6 Bb7 21.Rd6 Bxf3 22.Re1²

20.Rxd8+ Nxd8



21.Re1! f6 22.f4 Nf7 23.Be4 Bd7

23...Be6!?

24.Nc5 Be8

¹24...Bh3

25.Bg2 Rd8

25...exf4 26.gxf4 Nd6 27.b3 Kf7 28.Kb2 ± ; 25...Rc8 26.Kc2 Rc7 27.Kc3 ±

26.Kc2 Rd6?!

26...exf4

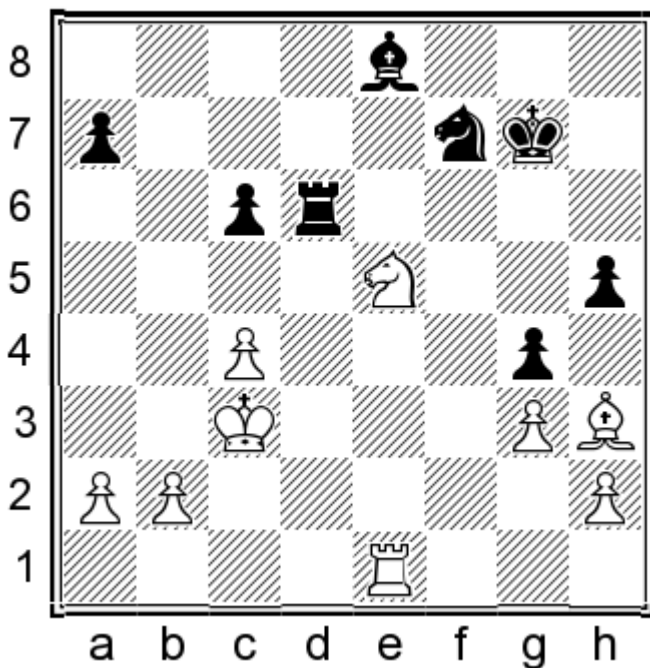
27.Bh3 Kg7

27...Rd8

28.Kc3 h5 29.Nd3

29.b4!?

29...g5 30.fxe5 fxe5 31.Nxe5 g4



32.Nxf7

32.Nd3!?

32...Bxf7 33.Bg2 Bg6 34.Re2 a5 35.Rd2 Rxd2 36.Kxd2 c5 37.Kc3 Kf6 38.a3 Ke5 39.b4 axb4+ 40.axb4 cxb4+ 41.Kxb4 Kd4 42.c5 Be8 43.c6 Bxc6 44.Bxc6 Ke3 45.Kc3 Kf2?

45...h4 46.gxh4 Kf4

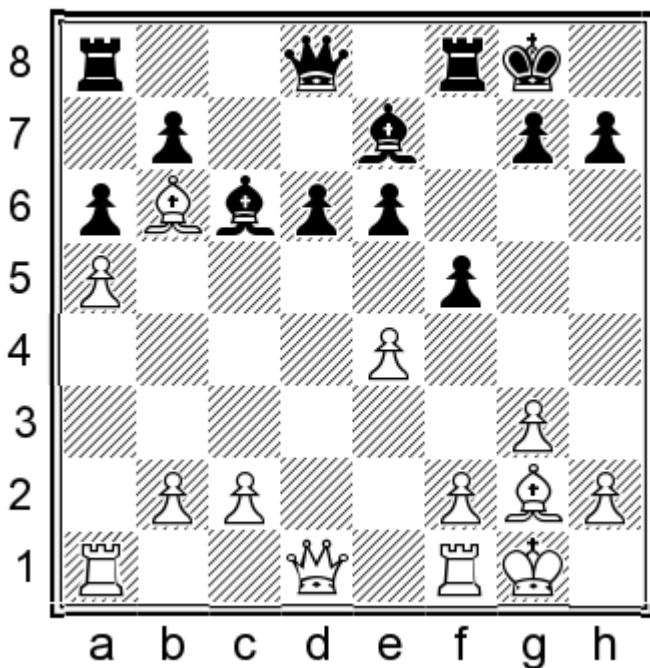
46.Kd4 Kg1 47.Ke3 Kxh2 48.Kf4 Kh3 49.Bd7 1-0

71. B80

Guseinov, Gadir (2665) - Grandelius, Nils (2670)

tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/71, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 a6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 d6 6.g3 Bd7 7.Bg2 Nc6 8.O-O Be7 9.Nxc6 Bxc6 10.a4 Nf6 11.Be3 O-O 12.a5 Nd7 13.Na4 f5 14.Nb6 Nxb6 15.Bxb6



15...Qe8N

15...Qd7 - 133/81

16.Re1

16.exf5 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Rxf5 18.Ra3 (18.Re1 Qc6+ 19.Kg1 d5 =) 18...Bd8!?
 (18...Qc6+ 19.Kg1 Bf6 20.Re3 (20.Rd3 d5 =) 20...Re8 21.Rfe1 (21.c3 Re5 =)
 21...Bxb2 22.Rxe6 Rxe6 23.Rxe6 Rd5 24.Qf3 Rd2 =) 19.Rb3 (19.Qxd6 Rd5
 20.Qf4 Qc6 21.Kg1 Bxb6 22.axb6 Qxc2 =) 19...Qd7 =

16...f4 17.c4 Qf7 18.Ra3

18.b4!?

18...Bd8

18...e5!?

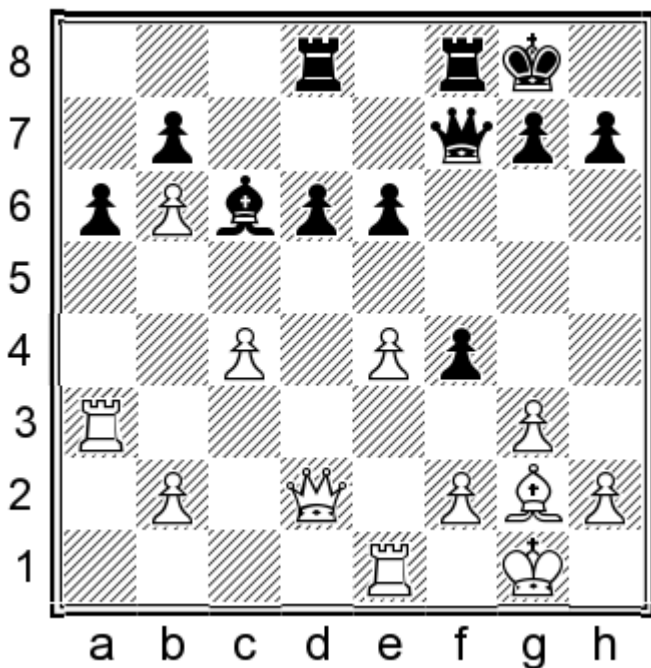
19.Qd2

19.Qc2!?

19...Bxb6

¹19...e5

20.axb6 Rad8?!



20...e5

21.Rd3! e5?!

21...fxg3 22.hxg3 Rd7 23.e5! Bxg2 24.Kxg2 d5 25.cxd5 Rxd5 26.Rxd5 Qf3+
(26...exd5 27.e6 Qf3+ 28.Kg1 Re8 29.e7 Kf7 30.Qd4 +-) 27.Kg1 Qxd5
28.Qxd5 exd5 29.Rc1! +-; 21...Rd7 ±

22.c5 Bb5

22...h5!?

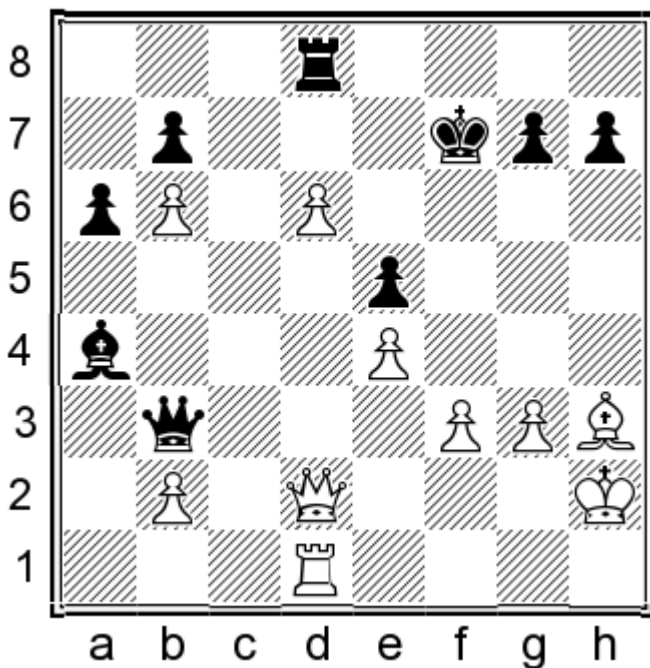
23.Rxd6 Rxd6 24.cxd6 +- Qe6 25.f3

25.Qd5!? Qxd5 26.exd5 fxg3 27.hxg3 Rd8 28.Rxe5 (28.Rc1!?) 28...Rxd6
29.Re6 Rd7 30.d6 Kf8

25...Rd8 26.Rd1 fxg3 27.hxg3 Kf7 28.Kh2! Ba4

28...Bd7 29.f4

29.Bh3 Qb3



29...Qf6 30.Qd5+ Kf8 31.b3 Bc6 32.Qc5

30.Rc1

30.Qg5!

30...Bc6 31.Rc5 Qxf3 32.Rxe5 Bxe4 33.Qe1

33.Be6+ Kf8 34.Rxe4

33...Bc6 34.Rf5+ Qxf5 35.Qe7+ 1-0

72. B80

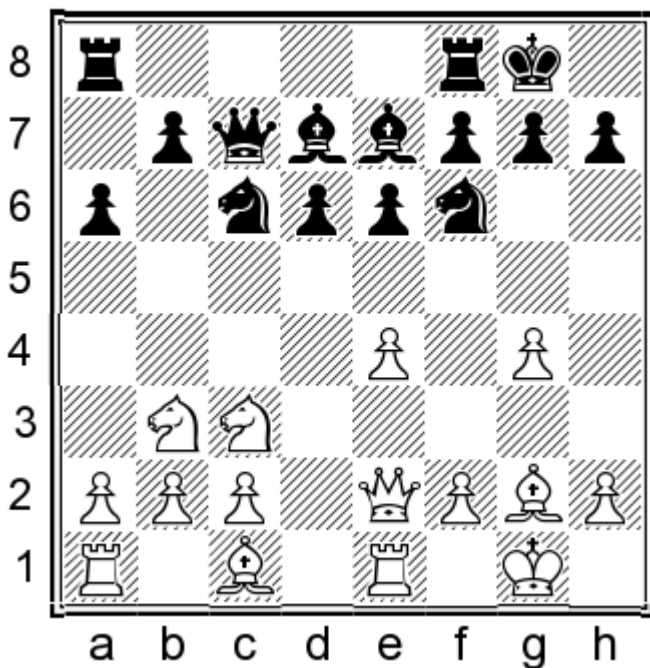
Durarbayli, Vasif (2606) - Sasikiran, Krishnan (2647)

tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/72, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.g3 e6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.O-O Qc7 9.Re1 O-O 10.Qe2

10.Be3 - 42/259

10...Bd7 11.g4 Nc6 12.Nb3



12...g6N

12...Bc8

13.Bg5

13.g5? Nh5 14.f4 (14.Bf3 Ng7 ... f6μ) 14...f6 15.gxf6 Bxf6 16.Rf1 Rac8μ;
13.Bh6 Rfd8 14.f4 Rac8 ∞; 13.f4 b5 ∞

13...b5

13...h5!?

14.a3 Rfb8?!

14...Rac8; 14...Ne5

15.h3 Ne8 16.Bxe7 Nxe7 17.Kh1

17.Qe3!?

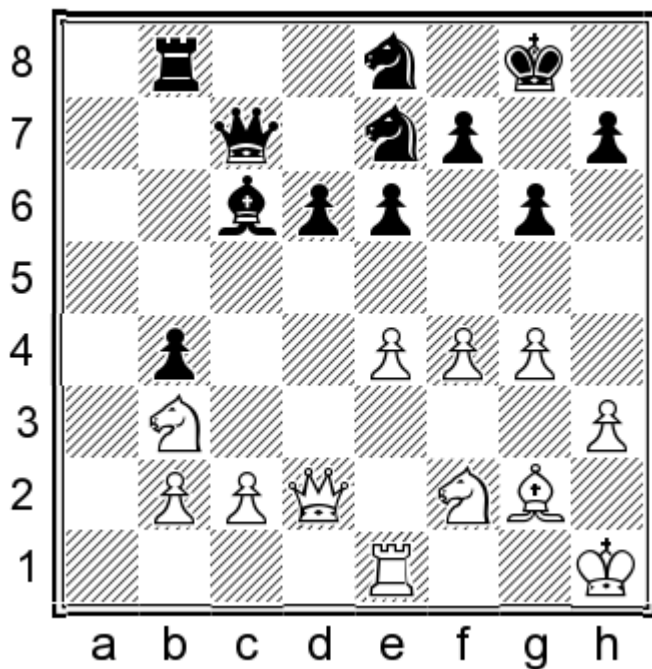
17...a5 18.f4 b4

18...a4!? 19.Nd4 b4 ∞

19.axb4 axb4 20.Rxa8 Rxa8 21.Nd1 Bc6

21...d5!?

22.Qd2 Rb8 23.Nf2



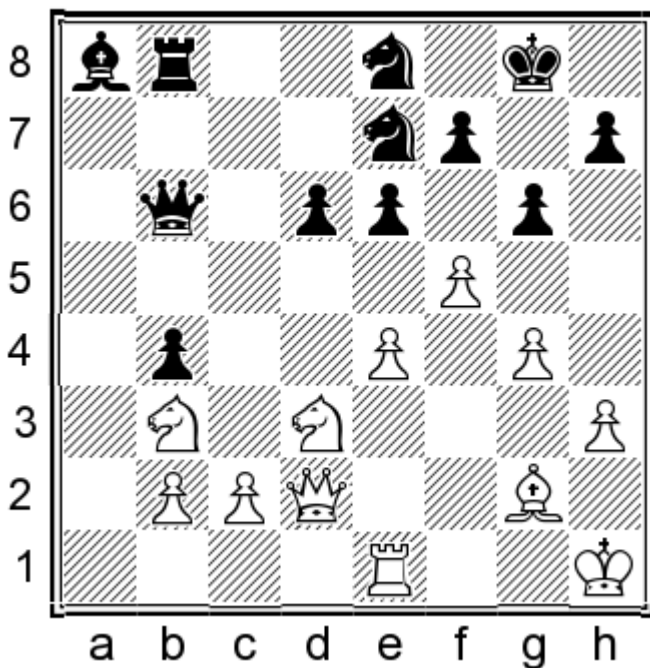
23...Ba8

23...e5!?

24.Nd3 Qb6

24...Nc6!?: 24...Nf6!?

25.f5



25...d5?

25...Nc6 26.fxe6 fxe6 27.Rf1 Qc7 ∞; 25...e5!?

26.fxe6 fxe6

26...Qxe6 27.exd5 Qd6 28.Qf4 +- -

27.Ne5?!

27.Ndc5 +- -

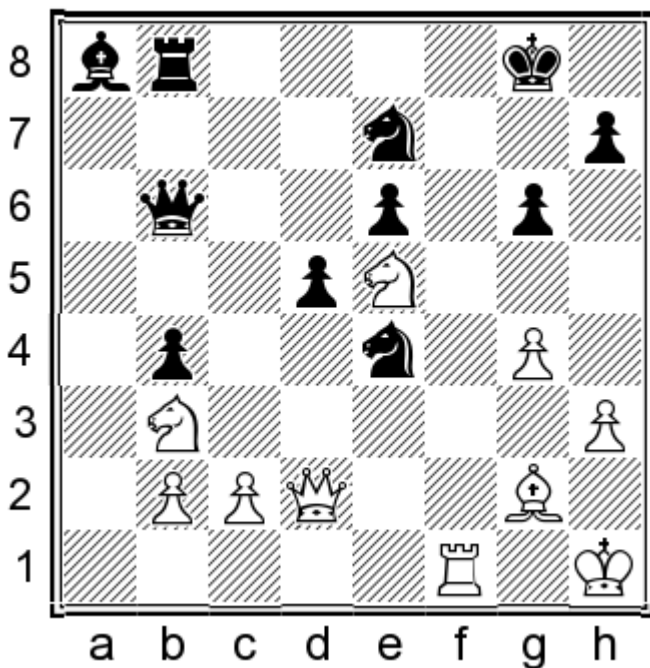
27...Nf6?

27...Qc7 28.Qf4 Nc6 ±

28.Rf1

28.Qf4 +- -

28...Nxe4



28...Qc7 29.Qf4 Rf8 30.Nd4 + -

29.Qf4 + - Qd8

29...Qd6 30.Nd4 Nc6 31.Ndxc6 Bxc6 32.Bxe4 (32.Nxc6?? Ng3+- +)
32...dxe4 33.Nxc6

**30.Qf7+ Kh8 31.Bxe4 dxe4 32.Qf6+ Kg8 33.Qxe6+ Kg7 34.Qf6+ Kg8
35.Qe6+ Kg7 36.Rf7+ Kh6 37.g5+ Kxg5 38.Qg4+ 1-0**

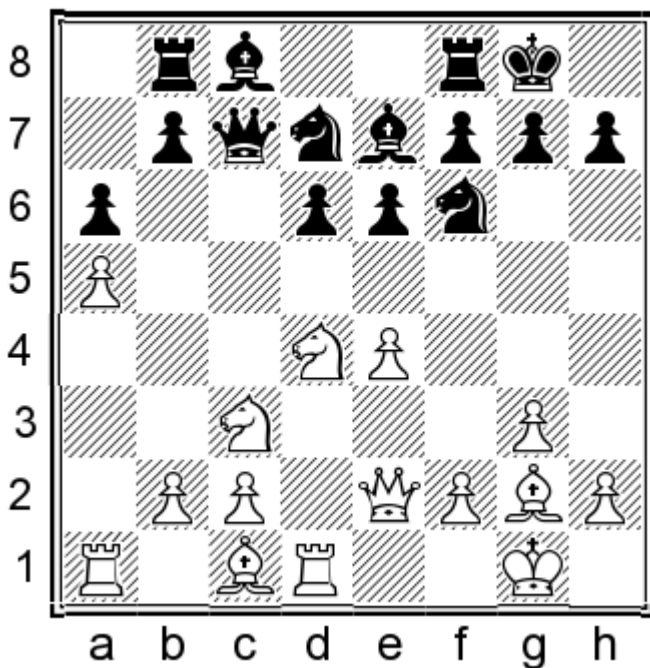
73. !N B80

Adams, Michael (2716) - Fedoseev, Vladimir (2687)
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/73, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.g3 e6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.O-O
Qc7 9.a4 O-O 10.a5 Nbd7 11.Qe2**

11.f4 - 96/165

11...Rb8 12.Rd1



12...Ne5!N

12...b6

13.Nb3 Bd7 14.h3

14.f4 Nc4 15.e5 (15.g4 g6∞) 15...Ne8 16.Bf1 Rc8∞

14...Rfc8 15.Kh2

15.Nd2!?

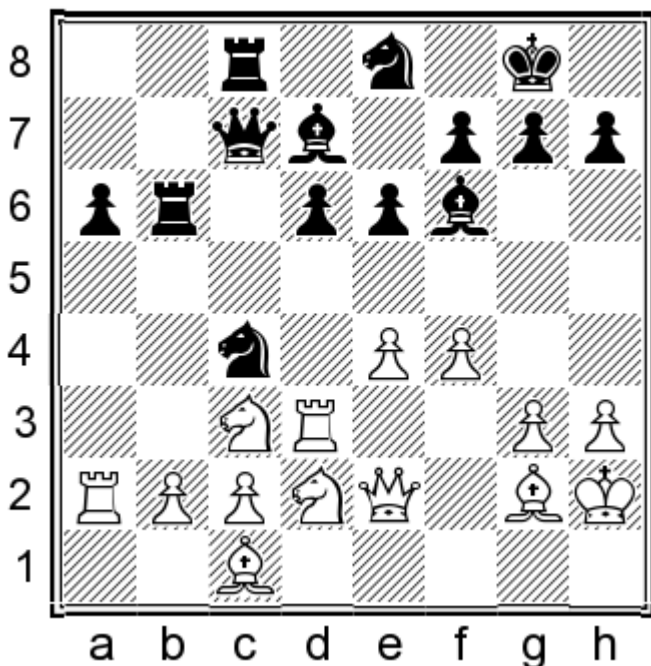
15...Nc4 16.Ra2

16.f4 h6 17.Bf1 e5f

16...Ne8 17.Rd3 Bf6 18.f4 b5

¹18...g6

19.axb6 Rxb6 20.Nd2

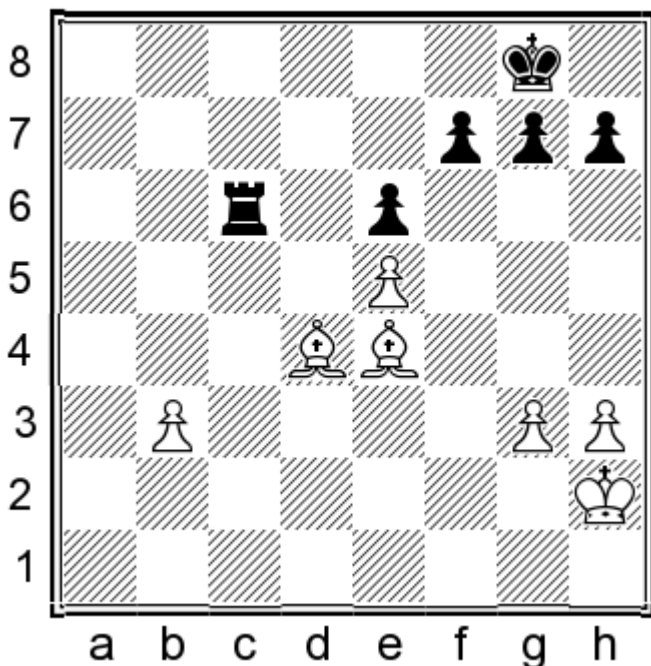


20...Rb4?!

20...Nxd2 21.Bxd2 Rc6 (21...Bc6 22.b3²) 22.e5 dxe5 23.b3 (23.Bxc6 Bxc6 24.fxe5 Bxe5 25.Rxa6 Bf6 26.Bf4 Qb7 27.Ra2 h5©) 23...h6 24.fxe5 Bxe5 25.Ne4 f5 26.Ba5 Qb8 27.Nd2 Nf6 28.Bxc6 Bxc6©; 20...Nxb2!? 21.Bxb2 (21.Rxb2 Bxc3 22.Rxc3 Qxc3 23.Rxb6 Bb5! 24.Qf2 Qxc2 25.Ba3 Qa2 26.Qe3 Rc2 27.Bb4 Qb2©) 21...Rxb2 22.Rxb2 Bxc3 23.Rb3 Ba5 24.c4 e5!©

21.Nxc4?!

21.b3 Na5 22.Ba3 Rd4 23.Re3 Rxd2! 24.Qxd2 Bxc3 25.Qxc3 Qxc3 26.Rxc3 Rxc3 27.Bb4 Re3 28.Bxa5 Nf6! 29.e5 dxe5 30.fxe5 Re2! 31.Kg1 Ne4 32.Bb6 Re1+ 33.Kh2 Re2 34.Rxa6 Bc6 35.Bd4 Bd5 (35...Rxc2 36.Rxc6 Rxc6 37.Bxe4



37...Rc8™ ! 38.Kg2 Rb8 =) 36.c4 Nc5™ 37.Rb6 Rxc2+ 38.Kh1 Rxc3+
39.cxd5 Rxc3+ 40.Kg2 Rxb3 41.Rc6 h5 42.Rxc5 exd5 43.Rxd5 Kh7 = ;
21.Ndb1!?

21...Rxc4 22.Bd2 a5 23.Qd1

23.e5!? dxe5 24.b3 Rd4 25.Ne4 Rxd3 26.Qxd3 ∞

23...a4 24.Be1 Rd8 25.b3?

25.Qd2 =

**25...Rxc3 26.Bxc3 Bxc3- + 27.bxa4 Ba5 28.Rb3 Bc6 29.c4 Nf6 30.Qe2 Nd7
31.Qd1 Nc5 32.Re3 e5 33.f5 Rb8 34.g4 Qe7 35.Ree2 Bc3 36.a5 Bd4 37.Ra3
h6 38.a6 Qa7 39.h4 Ra8 40.g5 Qe7 41.f6 gxf6**

41...Qd8!?

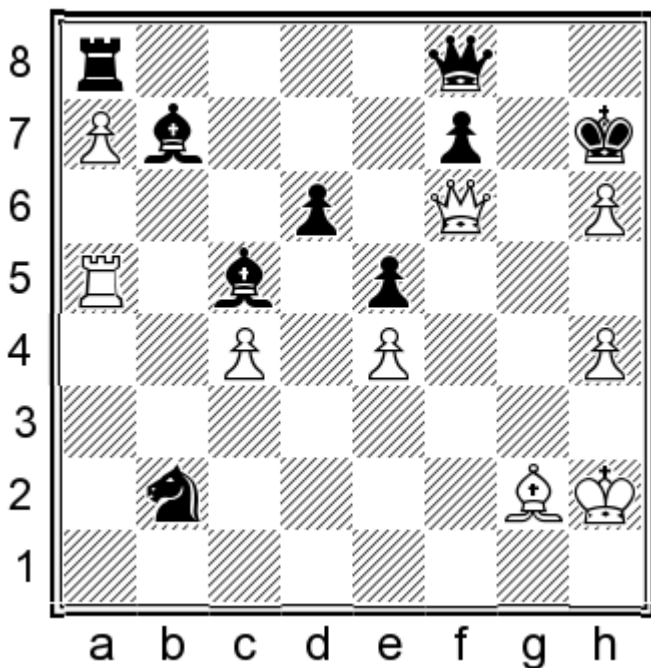
**42.gxh6 Kh8 43.Qe1 Qf8 44.a7 Ne6 45.Rea2 Bc5 46.Ra6 Bb7 47.R6a5 Nf4
48.Rb2 Nd3?**

48...Qg8!?

49.Qf1 Nxb2

49...Qxh6 50.Rxb7 Qxh4+ 51.Bh3 Rg8 52.Ra2 Nf2 53.Rxf2 Bxf2 54.Rb8
Bxa7 55.Rxc8+ Kxc8 56.Qf5©

50.Qxf6+ Kh7



51.Qf5+?

51.Bh3? Bxe4 52.Bf5+ Bxf5 53.Qxf5+ Kxh6 54.Qf6+ Kh7 55.Qf5+ Kg8
 56.Rb5 Bxa7 57.Rxb2 Qh6-+; 51.Rb5! Qxh6 (51...Rxa7 52.Bh3 Bxe4
 53.Rb8 Bg1+! 54.Kxg1 Ra1+ 55.Bf1 Bd3 56.Rxf8 Rxf1+ 57.Qxf1 Bxf1
 58.Rxf7+ Kxh6 =) 52.Qxf7+ Kh8 53.Rxb7 Bxa7 54.Rxa7 Rf8 55.Qe7
 (55.Qb7 Nxc4 56.Ra8 Qxh4+ 57.Bh3 Rxa8 58.Qxa8+ Kh7 59.Qc8 =)
 55...Rg8 56.h5! Qxh5+ 57.Kg1 Qh6 58.Ra3! Nxc4 59.Rh3 Qxh3 60.Qf6+
 Rg7 61.Qxg7+ Kxg7 62.Bxh3 =

**51...Kxh6-+ 52.Qg5+ Kh7 53.Qf5+ Kg8 54.Rb5 Rxa7 55.Rxb2 Qh6
 56.Qg4+ Kh7 57.Qf5+ Qg6 58.Qf3 Ra3 59.h5 Qe6**

59...Qg7

60.Qf1 Bc8 61.Rb8 Qe7 0-1

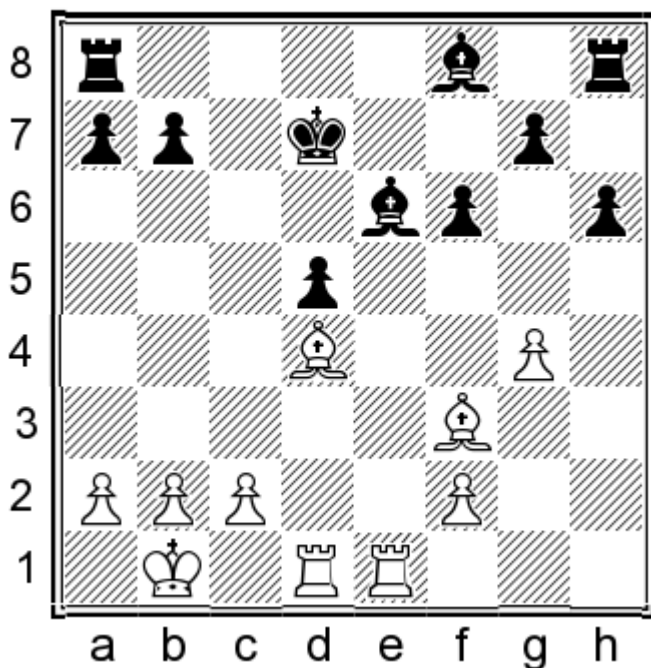
74. B81

Karjakin, Sergey (2757) - Duda, Jan Krzysztof (2729)
 chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/74, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 h6 7.h4 Nc6 8.Rg1
 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 exd5 11.Be3 Qxh4 12.Qf3 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Qe7+
 14.Be2 Qe4 15.O-O-O Qxf3 16.Bxf3 Be6 17.Rge1 Kd7 18.Kb1**

18.Be5 - 141/66

18...f6



18...b5

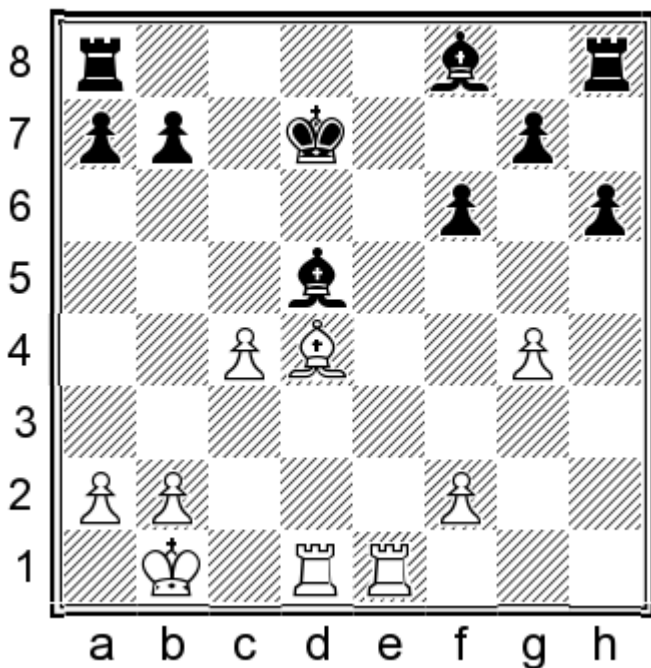
19.c4N

19.Be3 Bb4 20.c3 Bd6 21.Bxd5 Bxg4 22.Rd4 h5 23.Bxb7 Rae8 =

19...Bf7?!

19...Bb4 20.Rxe6 (20.cxd5 Bf7 21.Re3 Bg6+ 22.Be4 Bxe4+ 23.Rxe4 Bd6³; 20.Re3 b6 =) 20...Kxe6 21.Bxd5+ Ke7 22.a3 Bd6 (22...Ba5?? 23.Bc5+ Ke8 24.Be4 +-) 23.Bxb7 Rab8 24.Bd5 a5 =

20.Bxd5 Bxd5



21.Be3!

21.cxd5?! Bd6³; 21.Bc3 Rd8 22.Rxd5+ Kc8 23.Rf5f

21...Re8 22.Rxd5+ Kc6 23.Red1 ± g6

23...a6 24.Kc2 g6 (24...Be7 25.Rd7 h5 26.a3 hxg4 (26...h4 27.Bf4 g5 28.Bh2 +-) 27.Bf4 g5 28.Bg3 Kb6 29.R1d3! +-) 25.a3 ±

24.a3

24.Bxa7! b6 (24...h5 25.Rb5 Be7 26.gxh5 gxh5 27.Rh1 h4 28.Rh3 Bd6 29.Kc2 +-) 25.Rb5 Bc5 26.b4 Bxf2 27.Rf1 +-

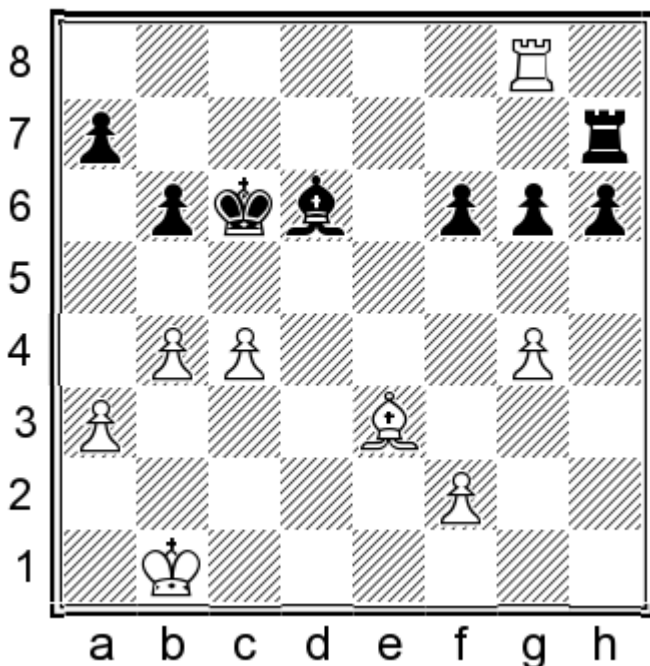
24...Rh7 25.b4

25.Bxa7?! b6 26.Rd8 Rxd8 27.Rxd8 Be7 (27...Bxa3 28.bxa3 Rxa7 29.Rf8 =) 28.Rd3 Kb7 29.Rd7+ Kc6 =

25...b6 26.Rd8?

26.Ka2 h5 27.gxh5 gxh5 28.Kb3 Kc7 29.Bf4+ Kc8 30.Ka4 a6 31.Bh2 ±

26...Rxd8 27.Rxd8 Bd6 = 28.Rg8



28...h5!

28...g5 29.Kc2 Kd7 30.Kd3 Ke6²

29.Rxg6 h4 30.Rxf6 Kc7 31.c5 bxc5 32.bxc5 Be5 33.Rf5 h3 34.Rxe5 h2
35.Bf4 h1=Q+ 36.Re1+ Kc6 37.Rxh1 Rxh1+ 38.Kc2 Rh4 39.f3 Rh3 40.Kd3
Rxf3+ 41.Be3

41.Ke4 Rxa3 42.g5 Ra1 43.g6 Rg1 44.Kf5 =

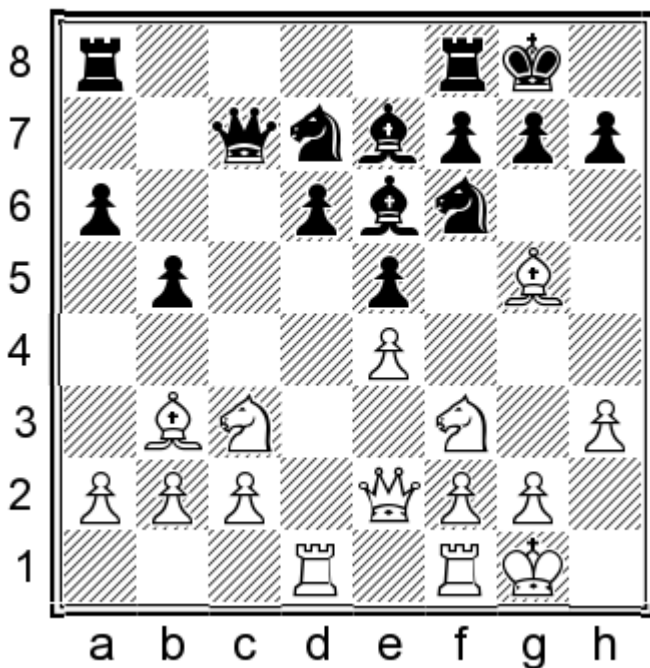
41...Rg3 42.g5 Kd5 43.c6 Kxc6 44.Ke4 a5 45.Kf4 Rg2 46.Kf5 Kd7 47.g6
Ke8 48.Bc5 Rc2 49.Bd6 Kd7 50.g7 Rg2 51.Bf8 a4 52.Kf6 Ke8 53.Bc5 Rg3
54.Bd6 Rxg7 55.Kxg7 Kd7 56.Bb4 Kc6 57.Kf6 Kb7 58.Ke6 Ka8 59.Kd6
Kb7 60.Kc5 Ka8 61.Kb5 Kb7 62.Kxa4 Ka8 63.Kb5 Kb7 64.a4 Ka8 65.a5
Kb7 66.a6+ Ka8 67.Kb6 Kb8 68.Bd6+ Ka8 69.a7 1/2-1/2

75. * B90

Ponkratov, Pavel (2619) - Drygalov, Andrey (2500)

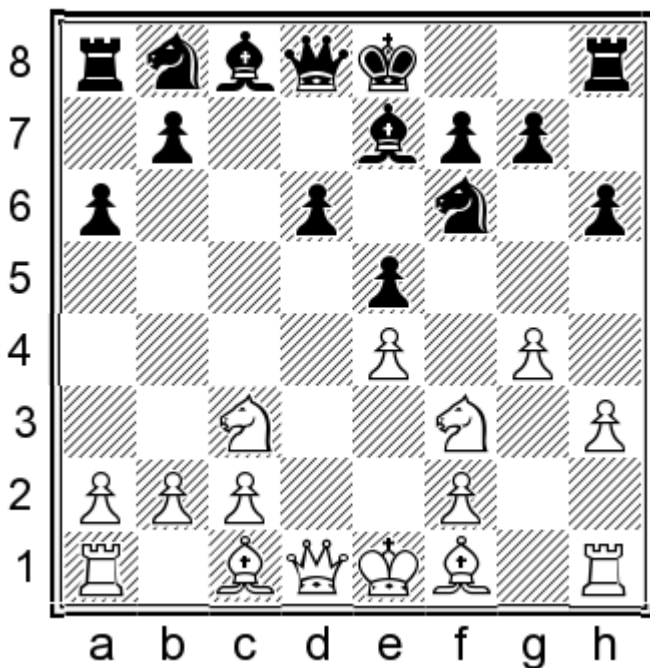
Chelyabinsk 148/75, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 e5 7.Nf3 Be7 8.g4
8.Bc4 Be6 9.Qe2 O-O 10.Bg5 b5 11.Bb3 Nbd7 12.Rd1 Qc7 13.O-O



13...Rac8N (13...h6) 14.a3 Nb6 15.Bxf6 (15.Rfe1 Nc4 16.Bxc4 Bxc4 17.Qe3 Rfd8 18.Bxf6 (18.Nh4 g6=) 18...Bxf6 19.Nd2 Be6=) 15...Bxf6 16.Rd3 Be7 17.Nh2 Qc5 18.Ng4 Bg5 19.Rb1 Nc4 = Djukic,N (2521)-Injac,T (2319) Niksic 148/ (75) 2021

8...h6



8...O-O 9.g5 Nh5 10.Bc4 Be6 11.Bb3 g6 12.Be3 Nd7 13.Qd2 Rc8 14.O-O-O
Nc5 15.Bxc5 dxc5! (15...Rxc5 - 147/72) 16.Qe3 (16.Qxd8 Rxd8 17.Nd5 Bd6
18.Nb6 Bc7 19.Nd5 Bd6 =) 16...Qc7 17.Nd5 Bxd5 18.Bxd5 c4 =

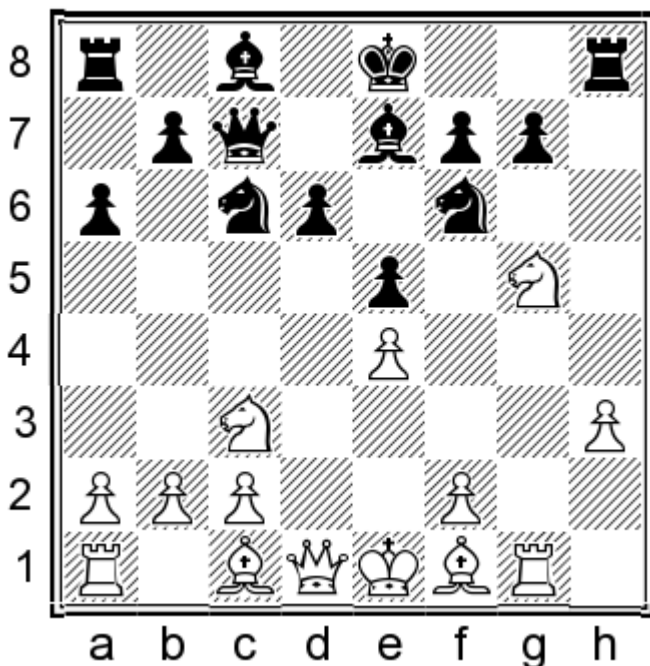
9.Rg1N

9.Bg2 O-O 10.g5 hxg5 11.Nxg5 Nc6 12.Be3 b5 ∞

9...Nc6

9...b5 10.g5 hxg5 11.Nxg5 Bb7 12.a3 Nbd7 13.Qf3 Rc8,,

10.g5 hxg5 11.Nxg5 Qc7



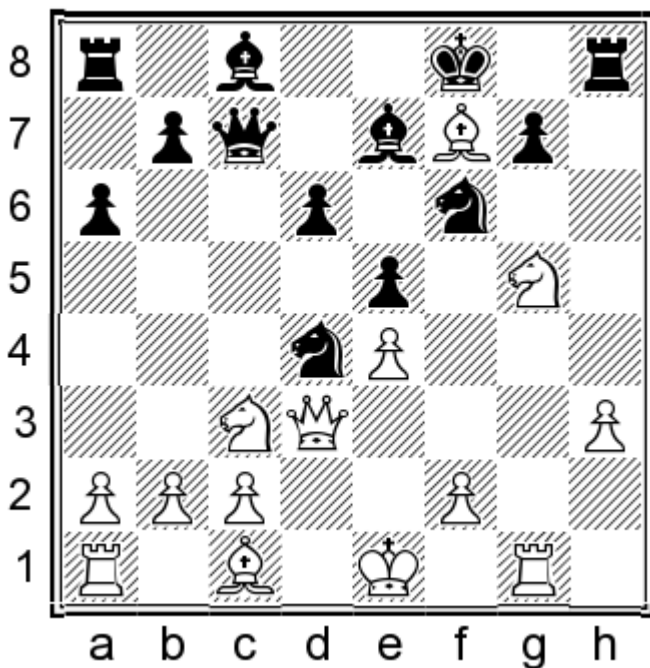
11...b5 12.a4 b4 (12...bxa4 13.Bc4! Rf8 14.Nd5 ±) 13.Nd5 Bb7 14.Bc4²

12.Bc4 Nd8 13.Bb3 Ne6 14.Qe2

14.Qd3 Nxc5 15.Bxc5 Rxc3 16.f3 Be6 17.O-O-O

14...Nxc5?!

14...Nd4! 15.Bxf7+ (15.Qd3 d5! 16.Bxd5 (16.exd5? Bf5- +) 16...Nxd5
 17.Nxd5 Qxc2 18.Qxc2 Nxc2+ 19.Kd1 Nxa1 20.Nc7+ Kf8 21.Nxa8 Bd8
 22.Rg3 f6 23.Rd3 Ke7 24.Be3 b6! 25.Nf3 Bb7 26.Nxb6 Bxe4 27.Nc8+ Ke6
 28.Rd6+ Kf7 29.Nd2 Bc2+ 30.Kc1 Ba5 31.Rd7+ Ke6 32.Rd6+ Kf7 =)
 15...Kf8 16.Qd3

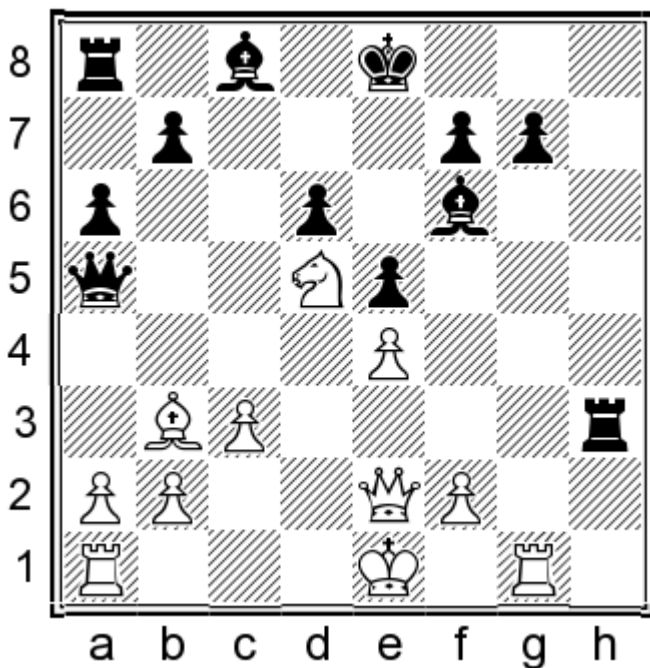


16...Nh7! 17.Nf3 Kxf7 18.Nxd4 exd4 19.Nd5 Qd8 20.Qg3 Bf6 21.Qg6+ Kf8
 22.Bf4 Be6 23.Bxd6+ Qxd6 24.Nxf6 gxf6 25.Qg7+ Ke8 26.Qxh8+ Nf8 27.O-
 O-O Rc8∞

15.Bxg5 Rxh3

15...Bxh3 16.O-O-O Be6 17.Bxf6 (17.f4f; 17.Be3 Rh7 18.Kb1 O-O-O 19.f4©)
 17...Bxf6 18.Nd5 Bxd5 19.Bxd5²

16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Nd5 ± Qa5+ 18.c3



18...Bd8?!

18...Qd8 19.O-O-O Kf8 20.Kb1 Be6 21.Ne3 ±

19.Rxg7 Be6 20.O-O-O + - Rc8 21.Kb1 Qc5 22.f4 exf4 23.Nxf4 Re3

23...Qe3 24.Qxe3 Rxe3 25.Nxe6 fxe6 26.Rh1 + -

24.Qg2 Bxb3 25.axb3 Qe5 26.Qg4 Qxe4+ 27.Ka2 1-0

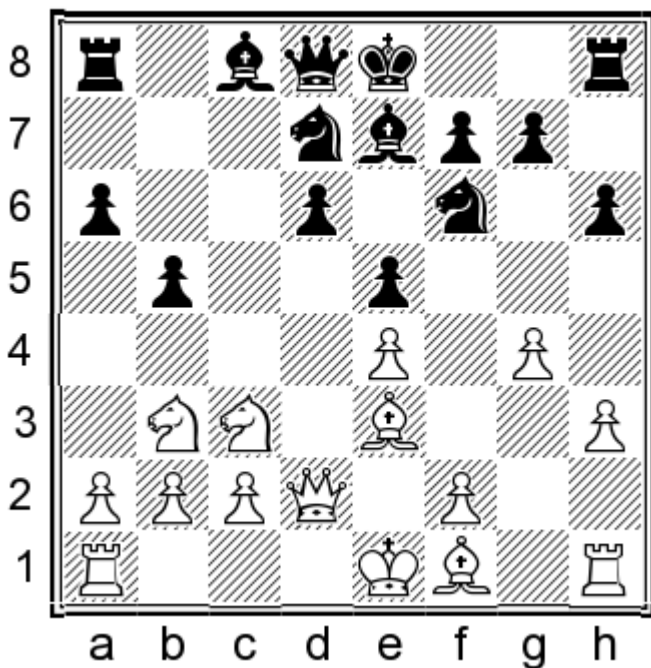
76. * B90

Altarbosh, Ward (2189) - Indjic, Aleksandar (2607)

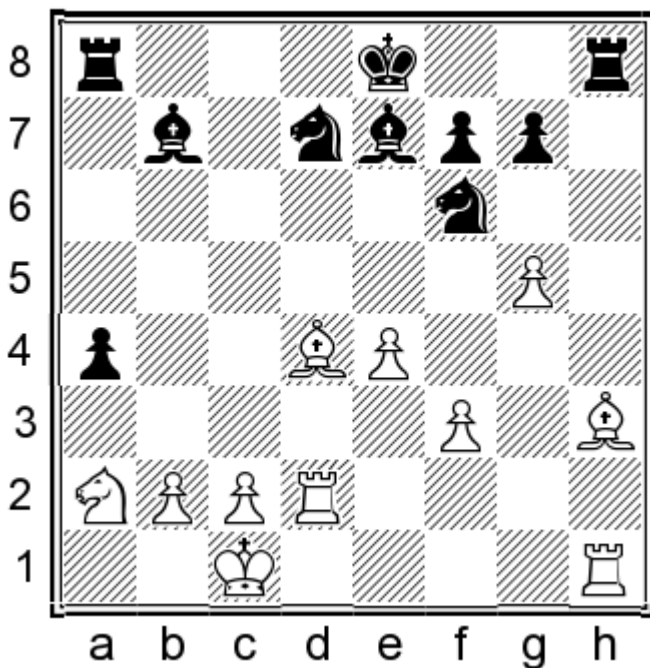
lichess.org (Int.-blitz) 148/76, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 e5 7.Nde2

7.Nb3 Be7 8.Be3 Nbd7 9.g4 h6 10.Qd2 (10.a4 - 145/75) 10...b5



11.f3?!N (11.a4) 11...Bb7 12.h4 (12.a3 d5! 13.exd5 b4 14.axb4 Bxb4 15.O-O-O Rc8 16.Qd3 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Nxd5 18.c4 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qe7μ) 12...b4 13.Na4? (13.Ne2 d5 14.Bh3 d4 15.Bf2 a5 16.O-O-O a4 17.Nbxd4 exd4 18.Bxd4 b3 19.Nc3 Qa5 20.g5 bxa2 21.Nxa2 Qxd2+ 22.Rxd2 hxg5 23.hxg5

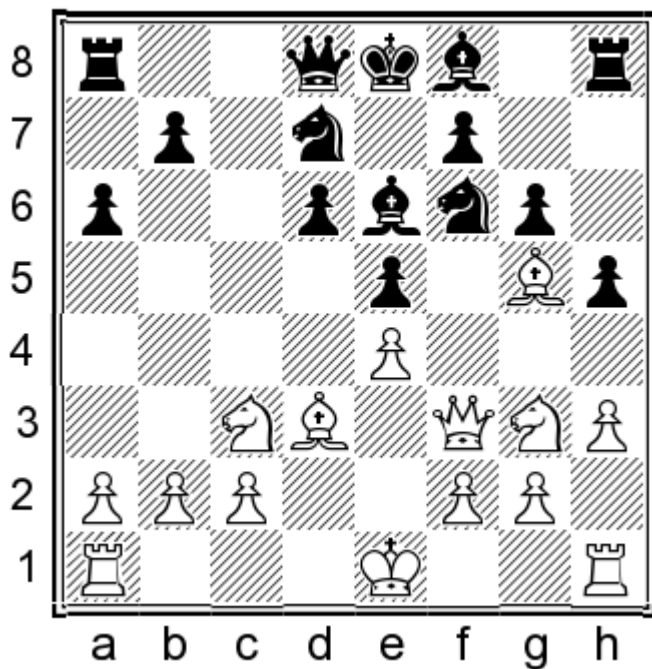


23...Nxe4! 24.fxe4 Bxg5 25.Bxg7 Rg8 26.Bh6 Bxd2+ 27.Bxd2 a3 28.Bb4
 axb2+ 29.Kxb2 Nf6μ; 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.exd5 Bxh4+μ) 13...Bc6- + 14.Qxb4
 d5 15.Bc5 Nxc5 16.Naxc5 dxe4 17.Rd1 Qc8 18.fxe4 Nxe4 0-1 (18)
 Kovalenko,I (2643)-Indjic,A (2607) lichess.org (Int.-blitz) 148/(76) 2021

7...h5 8.Bg5 Be6 9.Ng3 g6

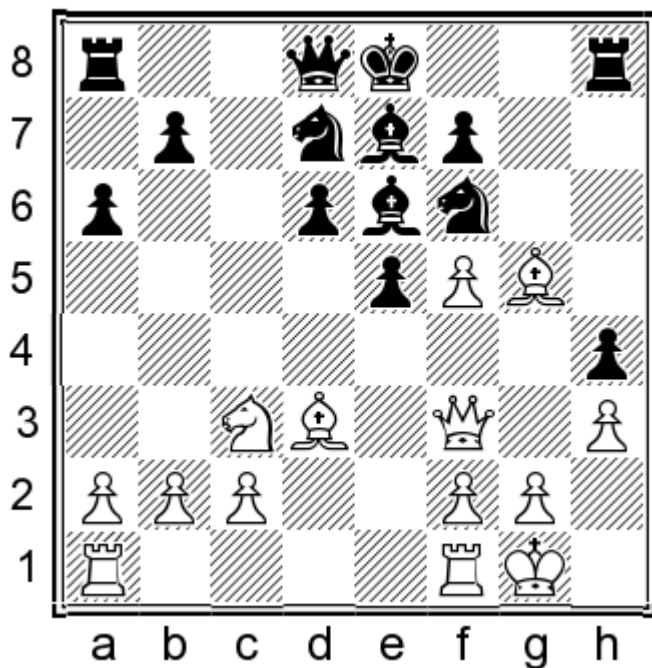
9...Nbd7 - 110/117

10.Bd3 Nbd7 11.Qf3



11...Bg7N

11...Be7 12.O-O h4 13.Nge2 (13.Nf5?! gxf5 14.exf5



14...Bd5! (14...e4? 15.Bxe4 (15.Nxe4 Bd5 16.Rae1 Kf8 17.Qf4 Ne5 18.Nxd6 Nxd3 19.Bh6+ Rxh6 20.Qxh6+ Kg8 21.Qg5+ Kf8 22.Qh6+=) 15...Ne5 16.Qe3 Bc8 (16...Nxe4 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Qxe4 Bd7 19.Nd5 Bc6 20.f4 Bxd5 21.Qxd5 O-O-O 22.Rae1 $\pm$) 17.f4 Nc4 18.Qe2 $\pm$) 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Qxd5 Bxg5 17.Bc4 O-O 18.Qxd6 Nf6 19.Qxe5 Re8 20.Qc3 Qc7 μ) 13...Nh5 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.Qe3 Rc8 16.Rad1 O-O 17.Qh6 Ndf6 18.f4 exf4 19.Nxf4 Nxf4 20.Rxf4 Nh5 21.Rff1 Rfe8 22.a3 Rc5,,; 11...Bh6! 12.Bxh6 Rxh6 13.Nf1 Rc8 14.Qe3 Rh8 15.Nd2 Ke7 16.a4 Qb6 17.Qxb6 Nxb6 18.a5 Nbd7 19.O-O Nc5 =

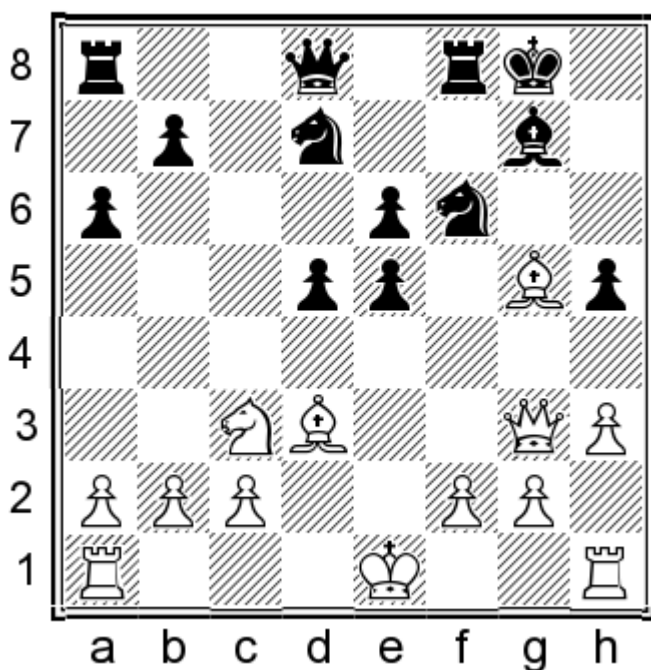
12.Nf5!?

12.O-O O-O 13.Rfd1 Rc8 14.Be2 Qb6 15.Rab1 Rfe8 16.Nf1 ∞

12...gxf5 13.exf5 O-O?

13...e4 14.Bxe4 Bc4 15.O-O-O Qb6 16.Qf4 Ne5 17.Bf3 O-O-O 18.Rhe1 Qc7 ∞

14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Qg3 d5



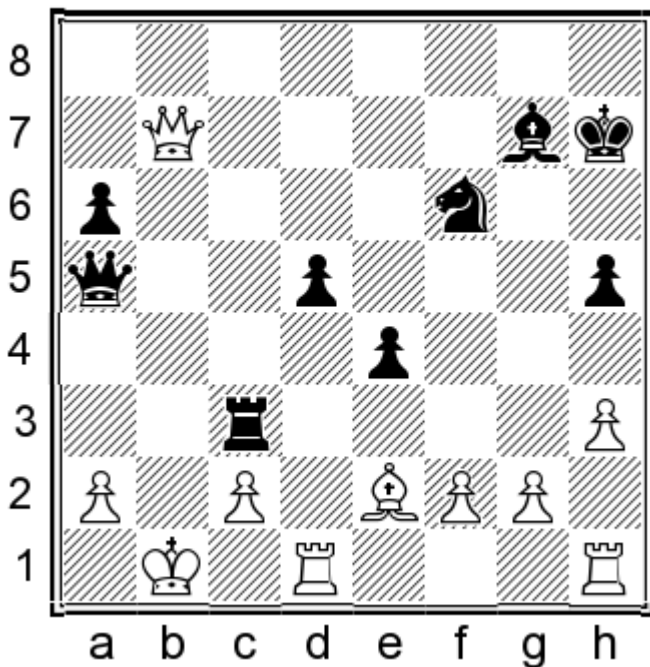
16.O-O-O?!

16.Bg6 Rc8 17.O-O Rc6 18.Ne2 $\pm$

16...e4 17.Be2 Qa5 18.Bh6

18.Kb1 Rac8 19.Be3 Rxc3! 20.bxc3 Rc8! (20...Qxc3 21.Bd4 Qxg3 22.fxg3 e5

23.Bb2 d4 24.Rhf1 Kh7 25.Rf5 Kg6 26.Rdf1 Rc8©) 21.Bh6! (21.Bd4? e5!
22.Bxe5 Nxe5 23.Qxe5 Rxc3 24.Qb8+ Kh7 25.Qxb7



25...Rc6!! 26.Kc1 Rb6 27.Qe7 Ng8-+) 21...Ne8 22.Bxg7 Nxg7 23.c4 Nb6
24.h4! Na4 25.Rh3 d4! 26.Qg5 Nc3+ (26...Rc5 27.Qd2 Nc3+ 28.Rxc3 dxc3
29.Qd8+ Qxd8 30.Rxd8+ Kf7 31.Rd4 Re5 32.Rd7+ Kf6 33.Rxb7 Rf5 34.f3
exf3 35.Bxf3 Rc5 36.a3 Rxc4 37.Rb4=) 27.Rxc3 Qxc3 28.Qf6 Qb4+ 29.Kc1
Qa3+ 30.Kb1 Qb4+=

18...Rf7 19.Kb1 Rc8 20.Rd4?

20.Be3 b5 21.Qd6 (21.a3 Rxc3 22.bxc3 Qxa3 23.Bc1 Qa5μ) 21...b4 22.Qxa6
Qxa6 23.Bxa6 Ra8 24.Bb7 Rb8 25.Bxd5 exd5 26.Nxd5 Nxd5 27.Rxd5 Nf6
28.Rd4 Bf8³

20...Rxc3?

20...Qb6! 21.Bxg7 Rxg7 22.Qe3 Rxg2 23.Nd1 e5 24.Rd2 d4 25.Qh6 Rg7-+

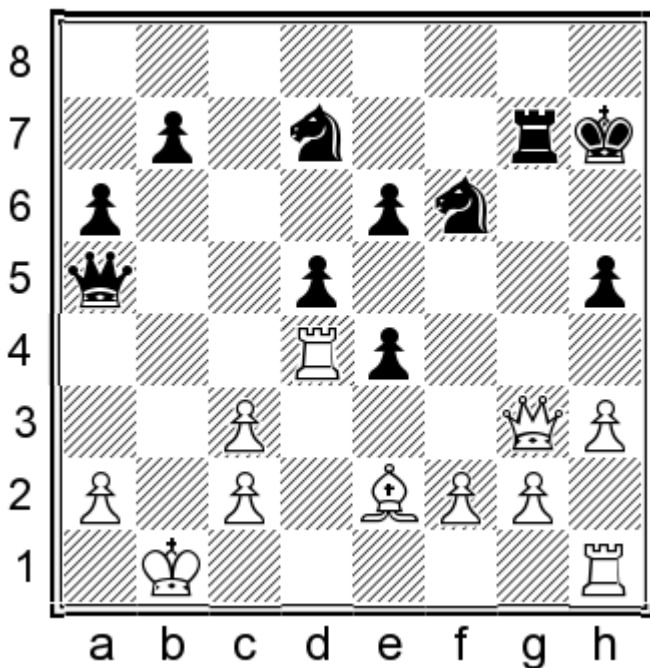
21.bxc3 Kh7?

21...h4 =

22.Bxg7

22.Bc1! Nc5 23.Rhd1 Na4 24.Bd2 b5 25.Rb4 Qc7 26.Qe3 ±

22...Rxc3



23.Qe3?

23.Qd6 Qxc3 24.Qb4 Qxb4+ 25.Rxb4 Rxg2 26.Rxb7 Kg6 27.Rf1 a5 28.a4 =

23...e5 24.Rb4 d4 25.Qd2

25.Qc1 Nd5 26.Rb3 Nxc3+- +

25...Nd5- + 26.Rxb7 Nxc3+ 27.Kc1 Qa3+ 28.Rb2 Nc5 29.Bc4 N5a4 0-1

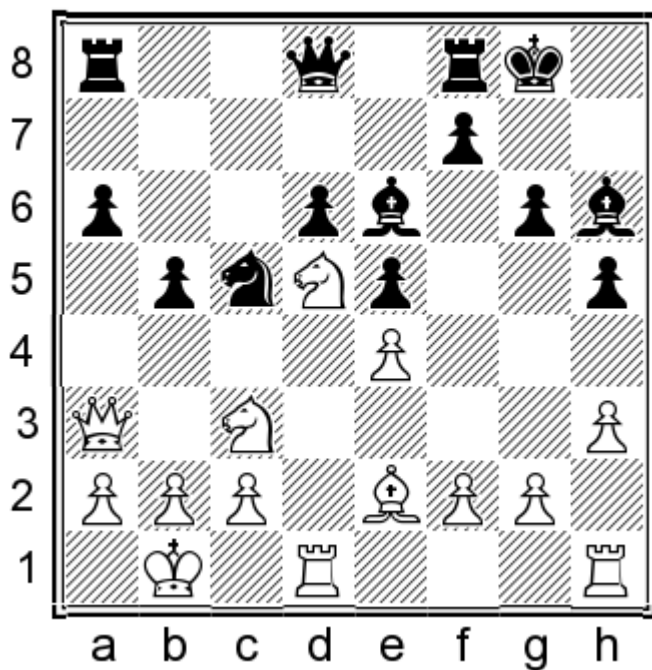
77. B90

Bogner, Sebastian (2577) - Dragnev, Valentin (2565)
tornelo.com (Internet) 148/77, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.Nge2 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 a6 6.h3 e5 7.Nde2 h5 8.Bg5
Be6 9.Bxf6 Qxf6 10.Nd5 Qd8 11.Qd3 Nd7 12.O-O-O g6 13.Kb1 Nc5
14.Qa3 Bh6

14...Bg7 - 143/69

15.Nec3 O-O 16.Be2 b5



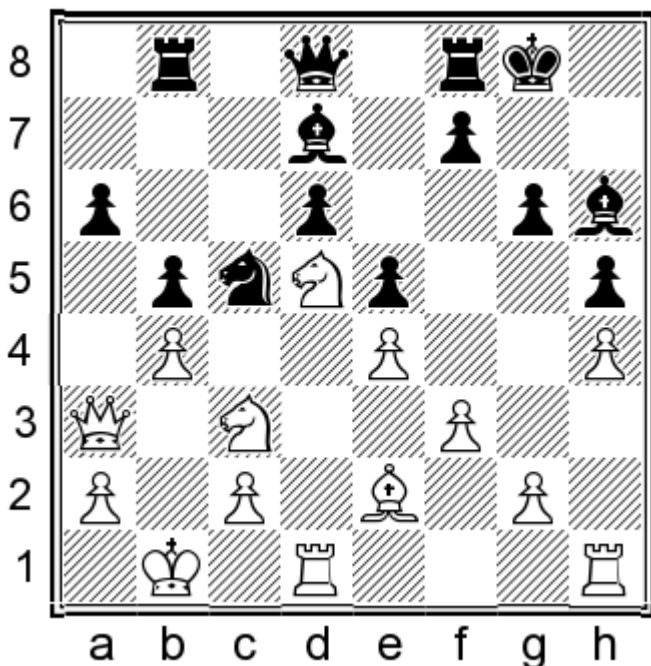
17.h4N

17.g4

17...Rb8

17...Bxd5!? 18.Rxd5 (18.Nxd5 Nxe4) 18...Qb6

18.f3 Bd7 19.b4



19...f5?

19...Kh8! 20.bxc5 (20.g4 a5! 21.gxh5 gxh5 22.f4 exf4 23.Rhg1 Be6 24.Qb2 Nd7 ∞; 20.Ka1 a5 21.bxc5 b4 22.Qb2 bxc3 23.Qa3 dxc5 24.Qxc3 Be6 25.Bc4 Bxd5 26.Bxd5 c4 27.Bxf7 Qb6 28.Bd5 Qf2 ∞) 20...b4! 21.Qxa6 (21.Nxb4 dxc5 22.Nd5 Be6 23.g4 Bxd5 24.Rxd5 Qc7 25.gxh5 Rxb4+ 26.Ka1 Rfb8 27.c3 Rb2 28.Qxb2 Rxb2 29.Kxb2 c4 30.hxg6 Qb6+ 31.Ka1 Qe3 32.Rd8+ Kg7 33.gxf7 Qxc3+ 34.Kb1 Qb4+ 35.Ka1 (35.Kc2 Kxf7 36.Rhd1 c3 37.R1d7+ Kg6 38.Rd6+ Kg7 =) 35...Qc3+ =) 21...bxc3+ 22.Ka1 dxc5 23.g4 Ra8 24.Qb6 Qxb6 25.Nxb6 Be6 26.Nxa8 Rxa8 27.Rd5 hxg4 28.fxg4 Be3 =

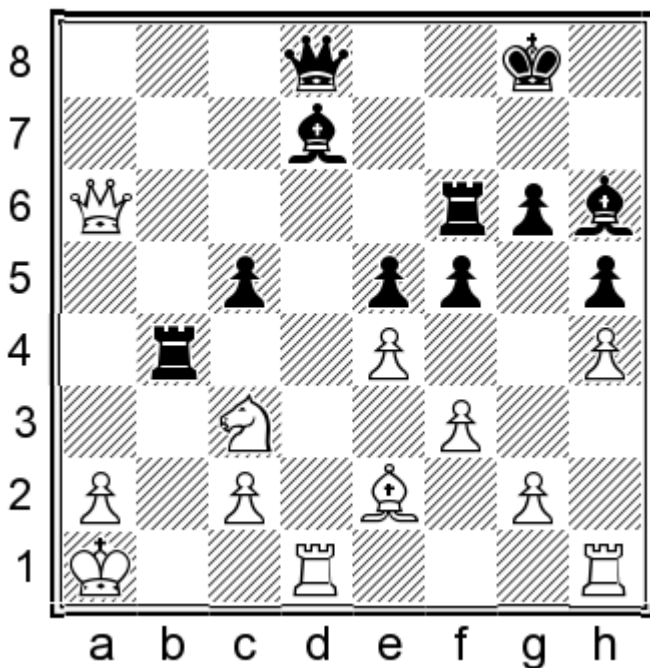
20.bxc5 b4 21.Nxb4

21.Qxa6 bxc3+ 22.Ka1 Bc8 23.Qxd6 +-

21...dxc5

21...a5 22.Rxd6 axb4 (22...Rxb4+ 23.Ka1 Qe8 24.Nd5 +-) 23.Qb3+ Kh8 24.Nd5 +-

22.Qxa6 +- Rxb4+ 23.Ka1 Rf6



24.Bc4+

24.Rxd7? Qxd7 25.Qxf6 Qd4 26.Qxg6+ Bg7 27.Qe8+ Bf8 28.Qg6+ Bg7
29.Qe8+ Bf8 =

24...Rxc4

24...Kg7 25.Qa7; 24...Kh8 25.Rxd7

25.Qxc4+ Rf7 26.Rd6 1-0

78. B90

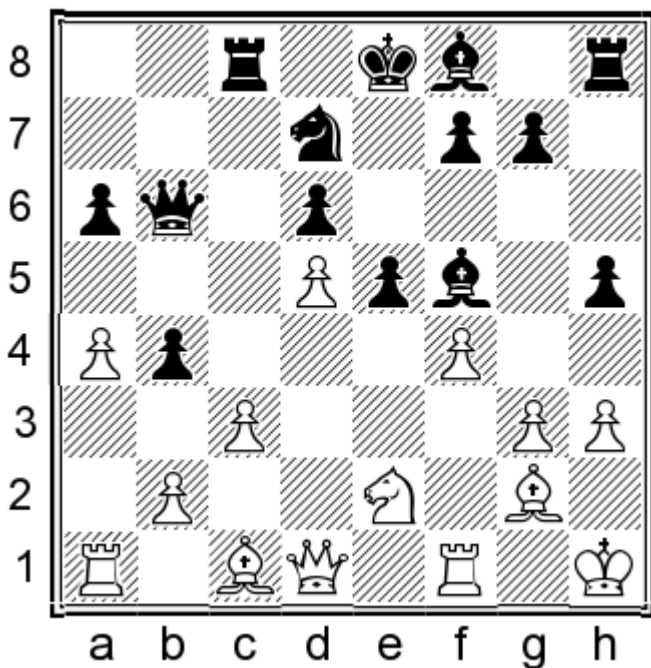
Martirosyan, Haik M (2622) - Sargsyan, Shant (2596)

Armenia (ch) 148/78, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 e5 7.Nde2 h5 8.g3
Be6 9.Bg2 b5 10.a4 b4 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.exd5 Bf5 13.f4**

13.a5 - 143/(67)

13...Nd7 14.O-O Rc8 15.c3 Qb6+ 16.Kh1



16...bxc3N

16...g6

17.bxc3

17.Nxc3 g6 18.a5 Qa7 19.Qe2 Bg7 20.Be3 Qb7 ∞

17...Bh7 18.a5 Qc7 19.Ba3

19.Be3 Be7 20.f5 O-O 21.Qd3 Qc4 ∞

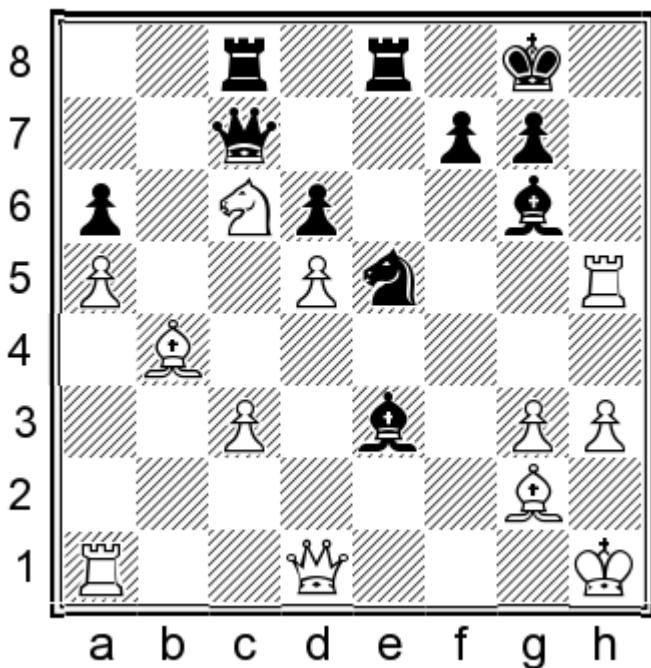
19...Be7 20.fxe5 Nxe5 21.Nd4 O-O 22.Nc6 Bf6 23.Bb4?!

23.Rxf6 gxf6 24.Qxh5 Rfe8 25.Rf1 Bg6 26.Qh6 Nxc6 27.dxc6 Be4 28.Rxf6 Bxg2+ 29.Kh2 Be4 30.Qg5+ Bg6 31.Bxd6 Qxc6 32.Rxg6+ fxg6 33.Qxg6+ Kh8 34.Qh6+ Kg8 =

23...Rfe8³ 24.Rf4?!

24.Qxh5 Nxc6 25.dxc6 Be4 26.Bxe4 Rxe4 27.Rad1 Re6 28.Qd5 Qxc6 29.Qxc6 Rxc6 30.Rd5 Be5 31.Kg2 f6³

24...Bg5 25.Rd4 Be3 26.Rh4 Bg6 27.Rxh5



27.Kh2 Nd3 28.Bf1 Bf2! 29.Bxd3 Re3 30.Rd4 (30.Bxg6 fxg6- +) 30...Bxg3+
31.Kg2 Rce8 32.Qf1 Qd7- +

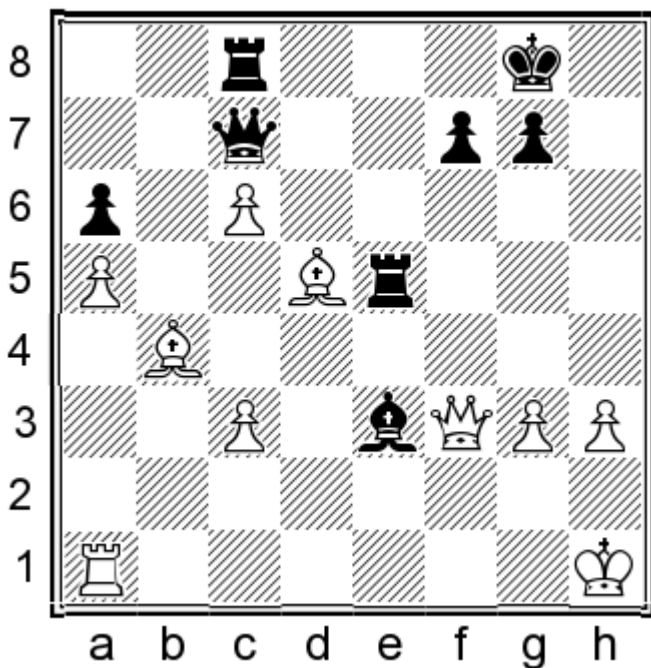
27...Bxh5?

27...Nd3! 28.Qf3 (28.Kh2 Bf2 29.Bf1 Re3 30.Rg5 Rce8 31.Rxg6 fxg6
32.Bxd3 Bxg3+ 33.Kg1 Qf7- +) 28...Bf2 29.Rd1 Re3- +

28.Qxh5 Nxc6

28...Qd7 29.Rf1 Nc4 30.Kh2 Nd2 31.Rd1 Ne4³

29.dxc6 d5 30.Bxd5 Re5 31.Qf3



31.Bxf7+? Qxf7 32.Qxe5 Re8- +

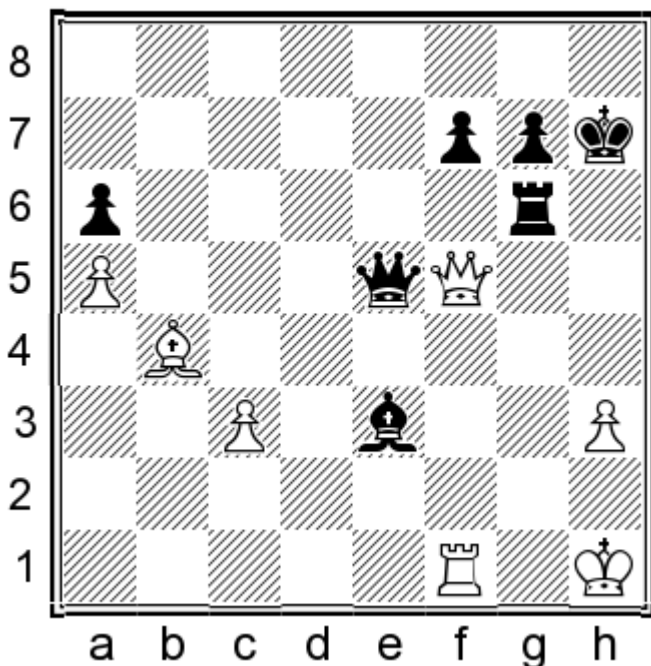
31...Rxd5! 32.Qxd5 Qxg3 33.Qf5?

33.Qg2 Bf4 34.Qxg3 Bxg3 35.Kg2 Be5 36.Rd1 Rxc6 37.Rd5 f6 =

33...Rxc6 34.Qg4 Qe5 35.Rf1 Rg6

35...Ba7! 36.Qf5 Qe8 37.Qd3 Re6- +

36.Qc8+ Kh7 37.Qf5



37...Qg3?

37...Qe8 38.c4 (38.Qxf7? Qe4+ 39.Qf3 Rg1+ 40.Kh2 Qe5+-+) 38...Qb8
39.Bc3 Qb7+ 40.Qd5 Qb3-+

**38.Qh5+ Rh6 39.Qf5+ Rg6 40.Qh5+ Bh6 41.Qf3 Qg5 = 42.c4 Qh4 43.Be1
Qxc4 44.Qxf7 Qc2 45.Qf2 1/2-1/2**

79. B90

Socko, Bartosz (2618) - Wojtaszek, Radoslaw (2694)

Polska (ch-m/2) 148/79, 2021

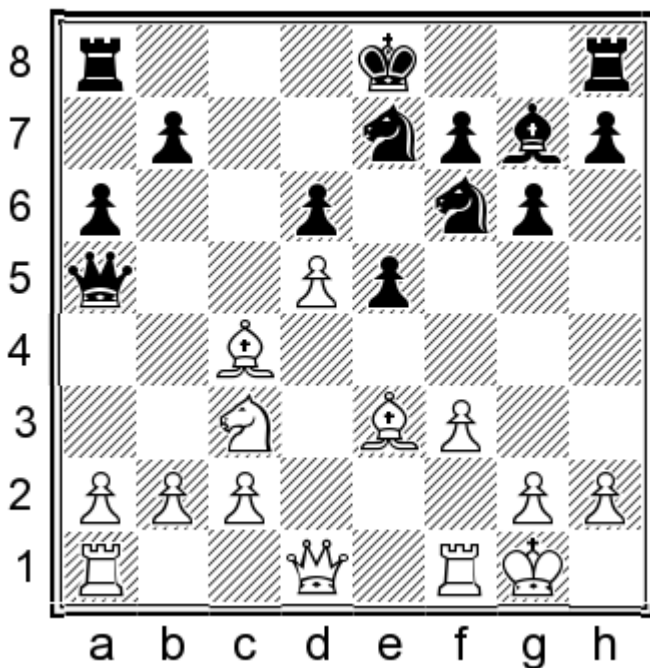
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.Nde2

7.Nb3 - 147/78

7...Be6 8.Be3 Nc6

8...d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.Qxd5 Bxd5 12.Nc3 Be6 (12...Bb4
13.O-O-O Be6 14.Nd5 ±) 13.O-O-O Nd7 14.Be2²; 8...h5!? 9.Qd2 Nbd7
10.O-O-O Rc8 11.h4 b5 ∞

9.Nd5 Bxd5 10.exd5 Qa5+ 11.Nc3 Ne7 12.Bc4 g6 13.O-O Bg7



14.Qd3N

14.Bb3 O-O 15.Qd2 Nf5 16.Ne4 Qxd2 17.Bxd2 Nxe4 18.fxe4 Nd4 =

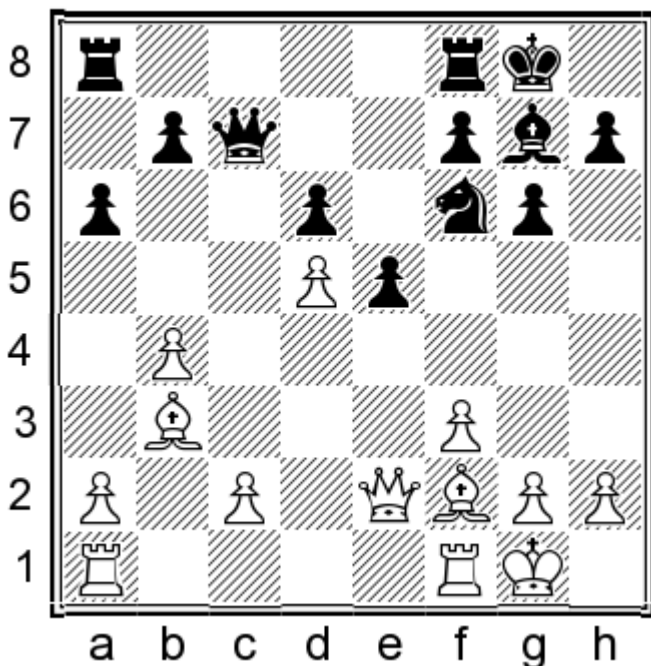
14...O-O 15.b4

15.Ne4 b5 16.Bb3 Nf5 17.Bf2 Qc7 ∞

15...Qc7 16.Bb3

16.Ne4 Nxe4 17.fxe4 f5 18.Bb3 fxe4 19.Qxe4 Nf5 ∞

16...Nf5 17.Bf2 Nd4³ 18.Ne2 Nxe2+ 19.Qxe2



19...e4!?

19...a5 20.bxa5 (20.a3 a4 21.Ba2 Qc3μ) 20...Rxa5³

20.c4

20.fxe4? Rae8 21.Qd3 Nxe4μ

20...a5 21.bxa5

21.c5! axb4 22.cxd6 Qxd6 23.Bg3 Qc5+ 24.Bf2 Qd6 = (24...exf3 25.Qxf3 Qd6∞)

21...exf3 22.Qxf3 Nd7 23.Rae1 Nc5

23...Rxa5 24.Re7 Qd8 25.Re2 Be5 26.g3 f5³

24.Bh4 Rae8 25.Rxe8 Rxe8 26.Re1 Be5 27.Rf1 Bd4+

27...f5 28.Be1 Qg7 29.Kh1 Qh6³

28.Kh1 Re3 29.Qd1 Re4 30.Bg5 Be5 31.Qf3 f5 32.Be3 Qe7 33.g3 Bd4 34.Bf4 Re1 35.Bc2 Rxf1+ 36.Qxf1 Bc3 37.h4 Bxa5 38.Qf3 Bb6 39.Kg2 Nd7 = 40.g4 Ne5

40...Qxh4 41.gxf5 Ne5 42.Bxe5 dxe5 43.d6 Qg5+ 44.Kh3 Qh6+ 45.Kg3 Qg5+ =

41.Bxe5 Qxe5

41...dxe5 42.gxf5 Qxh4 = - 40...Qh4

42.gxf5 Qe3 43.fgx6 hgx6 44.Qxe3 Bxe3 45.Bxg6 Kg7 46.Bf5 b6 47.Kf3
Bc5 48.Kg4 Kh6 49.Be6 1/2-1/2

80. B90

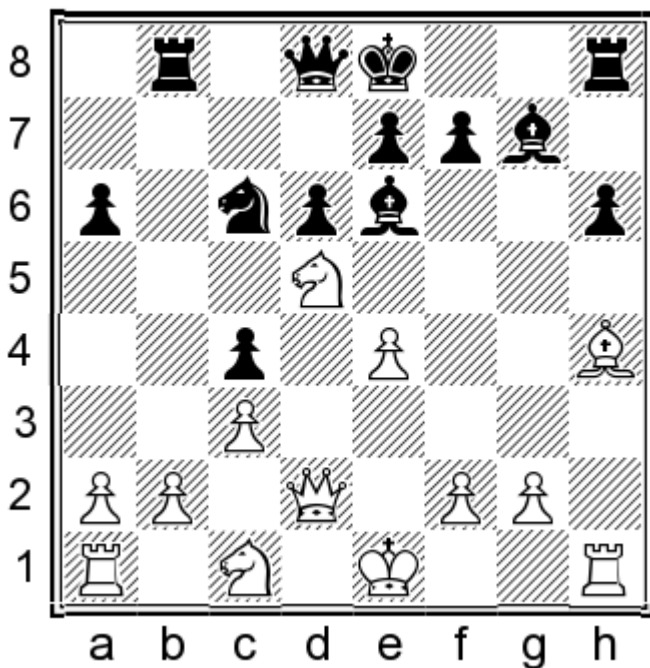
Probstfeld, Bernd - Balzert, Antonius

corr 148/80, 2020

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 Ng4 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4
g5 9.Bg3 Bg7 10.Qd2 Nc6 11.Nb3 b5 12.h4

12.f3 - 70/(242)

12...gxh4 13.Bxh4 Nge5 14.Nd5 Nc4 15.Bxc4 bxc4 16.Nc1 Rb8 17.c3 Be6



18.Nf4N

18.f4 O-O (18...Qd7) 19.Ne3 Qb6 20.f5 Qxb2 21.Qxb2 Rxb2 22.Nd1 Rc2
23.fxe6 fxe6 24.Ne2 Ne5 25.Ne3 Rb2 26.Rf1 Nd3+ 27.Kd1 Rxf1+ 28.Nxf1
Bf6 29.Bxf6 Nf2+ 30.Ke1 Nd3+ =

18...h5 19.Qc2

19.Nce2 Bh6 20.Qc2 Bxf4 21.Nxf4 Kd7 22.Nxe6 fxe6 23.b4 cxb3 24.axb3
Qc7 25.O-O Rhg8 26.f3 Qb6+ 27.Rf2 a5f; 19.Nxe6 fxe6 20.Ne2 Ne5 21.b3
Qb6 22.O-O Bh6 23.Qd1 Ng6 24.Bg3 h4 25.Bh2 e5 26.Rb1 Qc6 27.Qd5

Qxd5 28.exd5 cxb3 29.axb3 a5 30.f4 Nxf4 31.Bxf4 Bxf4 32.Nxf4 exf4
33.Rxf4 Rh5 =

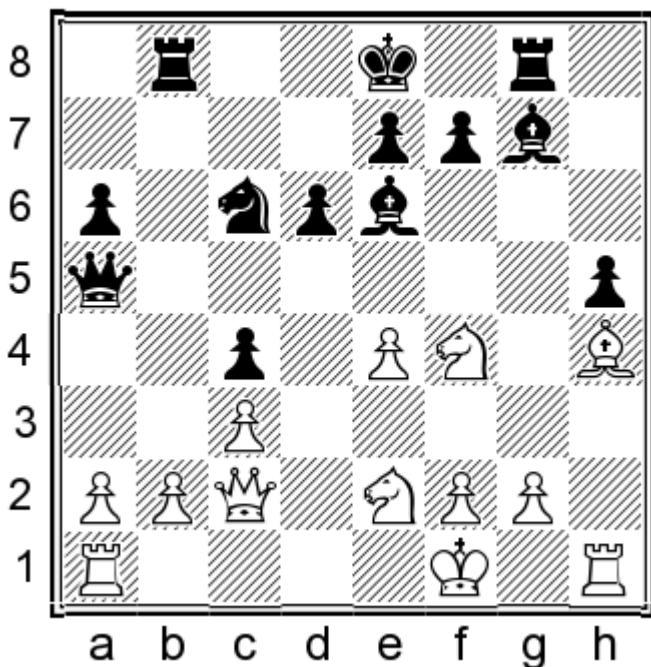
19...Qa5

19...Qd7 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.f4 d5 22.exd5 exd5 23.Ne2 d4 24.cxd4 Nxd4
25.Nxd4 Qxd4 26.Qg6+ Kf8 27.Qe6 Qc5 28.Rc1 Rh6 29.Qe4 Qc6 30.Bxe7+
Kf7 31.Qxc6 Rxc6 32.Ba3 Bxb2 33.Bxb2 Rxb2 34.Rxh5 Rxg2 35.Rf5+ Ke7
36.Re5+ Kd7 37.Re2 =

20.Nce2

20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.O-O Rg8 22.Ne2 Ne5 23.b4 Qb6 24.Rad1 Bh8 25.Kh1 Nd3
26.Nc1 Nf4 27.Ne2 Nxg2 28.Bg3 h4 29.Kxg2 hxg3 30.fxg3 Kd7³

20...Rg8 21.Kf1



21.O-O Kd7 22.Kh1 Qe5 23.f3 Bh6 24.Nxe6 fxe6 25.Rab1 Qg7 26.Ng1 Bg5
27.Be1 Qf6 28.Bf2 Bh4 ∞

21...Kd7! 22.Bg3 Rh8 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.f4 h4 25.Bf2

25.Bxh4? Bf6 26.g3 Bxh4 27.gxh4 Qh5 28.Ke1 e5 29.f5 Qg4 30.Kd2 Rxh4
31.Rag1 Qxe4μ; 25.Rxh4 Rxh4 26.Bxh4 Qh5 27.Bf2 Bh6 28.Kg1 Rh8
29.Ng3 Qg4 30.Qe2 Rg8 31.f5 Ne5©

25...Bf6 26.Ng1

26.Rh3 e5 27.f5 Nd8 28.Ng1 Qb5 29.Rb1 Nb7 30.Nf3 Nc5 31.Bxc5 Qxc5
32.Qe2 Qb5 ∞

26...Rb7 27.Be3

27.a4 Qh5 28.Be3 Qg4 29.Nh3 Rg8 30.Re1 Rb3 31.Bc1 e5 32.f5 Na5 33.Rg1
Rgb8 μ ; 27.Be3 e5 28.f5 Qb5 29.Rb1 Nd4 30.Qf2 (30.cxd4 exd4 31.Bxd4
Bxd4 32.Rh3 c3+ 33.Ne2 Be5 34.b3 Rc7 35.Rd1 a5 36.Kg1 Qc5+ μ) 30...a5
31.Nf3 Nxf3 32.gxf3 h3³

27...e5 28.f5 Qb5 29.Rb1 Nd4 30.Qf2

30.Qd2 Qa4 31.cxd4 Qxa2 32.Rc1 Rxb2 33.Qc3 exd4 34.Bxd4 Rf2+!
35.Bxf2 Bxc3 36.Rxc3 Qb1+ 37.Be1 Qxe4- + ; 30.Qd1 Qc6 31.cxd4 Qxe4
32.Rc1 c3 33.bxc3 Qxe3 34.Rh3 Qe4 35.Qf3 Qxf3+ 36.Nxf3 exd4 37.Nxd4
Rc8 μ

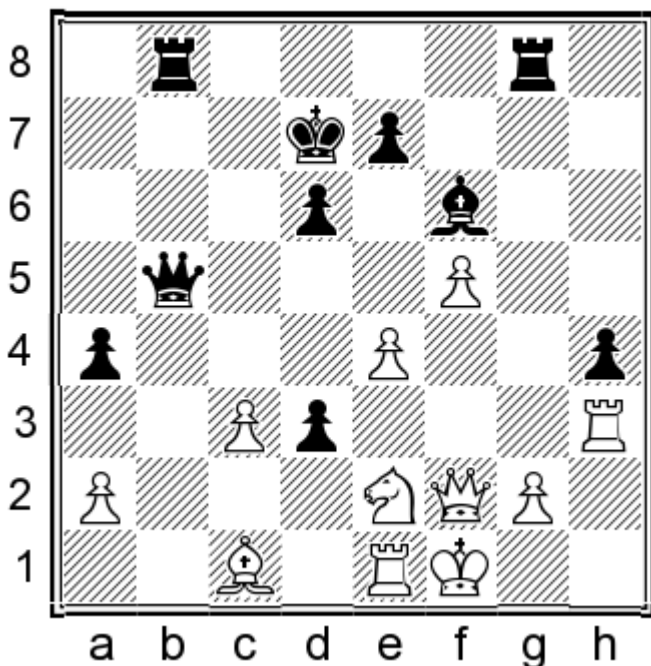
30...Rbb8 31.Re1 a5 32.Bc1 a4 33.Rh3

33.Qd2 Rhg8 34.Qd1 Rg7 35.cxd4 exd4 36.Ne2 c3 37.bxc3 d3 38.e5 Bxe5
39.Rxh4 dxe2+ 40.Rxe2 Bg3 41.Rh5 Rg4 μ

33...Rhg8 34.cxd4 c3+

34...Rg3? 35.dxe5 Bxe5 36.Ne2 a3 37.bxa3 Rxh3 38.gxh3 c3 39.Bf4 Bf6
40.Qa7+ Rb7 41.Qe3 Rc7 42.a4 Qc5 43.a5 Qxa5 44.Qd3 c2 45.Rc1 Qc5
46.e5 + -

35.Ne2 exd4 36.bxc3 d3



37.e5

37.Nd4?? Bxd4 38.Qxd4 (38.Qd2 Bxc3 39.Qxc3 d2+- +) 38...d2+- +; 37.Kg1 dxe2 38.Rxe2 Be5 39.Rb2 Qa6 40.Rf3 Rxb2 41.Qxb2 Rg4 42.Be3 Rxe4³

37...dxe2+ 38.Rxe2 Bxe5 39.Qxh4 Qc6 40.Bd2 Bf6 41.Qf4 Rb2 42.Qe3 Rg4 43.a3

43.Qe6+ Kc7 44.Rf3 Rb1+ 45.Be1 a3 46.Qe3 Qc4 47.Kg1 Bg5 48.Qe6 Qxe6 49.fxe6 d5 50.c4 Bh4 51.Rf1 Rxe1 52.Rfxe1 Bxe1 53.Rxe1 Rxc4³

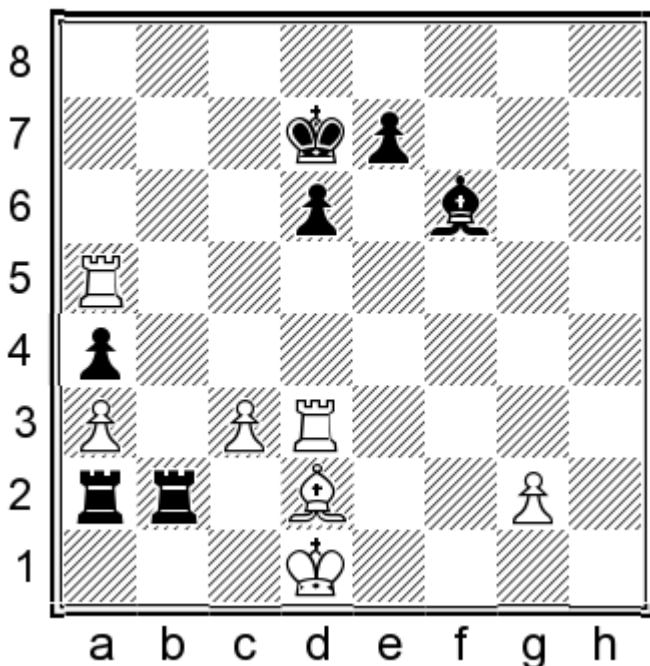
43...Rb1+ 44.Be1 Qd5 45.Rf3 Kc7 46.Qe6 Qc6 47.Rfe3 Rf4+ 48.Kg1 Qc5 49.Kh2 Qxf5 50.Qf7 Rb8 51.Bf2 Kc6 52.Qe6 Rb1 53.Qxf5 Rxf5 54.Re4

54.g4 Ra5 55.Kg2 Rb3 56.Ra2 Ra8 57.Rf3 Rg8 58.Rf4 Bxc3 59.Rxa4 e5 60.Kf1 d5 61.Re2 e4 62.Ra6+ Kb7 63.Ra7+ Kb8 64.Rd7 Rxg4 65.Bc5 Rb1+ 66.Kf2 d4- +

54...Rh5+ 55.Kg3 Ra5 56.Rc4+ Kd7 57.Ree4 Rg5+ 58.Rg4 Be5+ 59.Kf3 Rf5+ 60.Ke3 Rb3 61.Be1 Rf1 62.Ke2 Rg1 63.Rce4

63.Rxa4? Rb2+- +

63...Bf6 64.Bd2 Rb2 65.Re3 Rc1- + 66.Rc4 Rcc2 67.Rd3 Bg5 68.Rcd4 Ra2 69.Rd5 Bf6 70.Kd1 Rcb2 71.Ra5



71...Bxc3! 72.Rxc3 Rxd2+ 73.Kc1 Rxc2 74.Ra7+ Ke6 75.Re3+ Kd5 76.Kb1 Rab2+ 77.Ka1 Rbe2 78.Ra5+ Kd4 79.Rxe2 Rxe2 80.Rxa4+ Kc3 81.Ra7 e5 82.Rc7+ Kb3 83.Rb7+ Kxa3 84.Kb1 Ka4 85.Kc1 Re4 86.Rb6 d5 87.Kd2 Rb4 88.Rd6 Rd4+ 89.Ke3 Kb5 90.Re6 Re4+ 91.Kd2 Kc4 92.Re8 Kb4 93.Kc2 Kb5 94.Kc3 Rc4+ 95.Kd2 Rd4+ 96.Ke3 Re4+ 97.Kd3 Kc6 98.Rc8+ Kb6 0-1

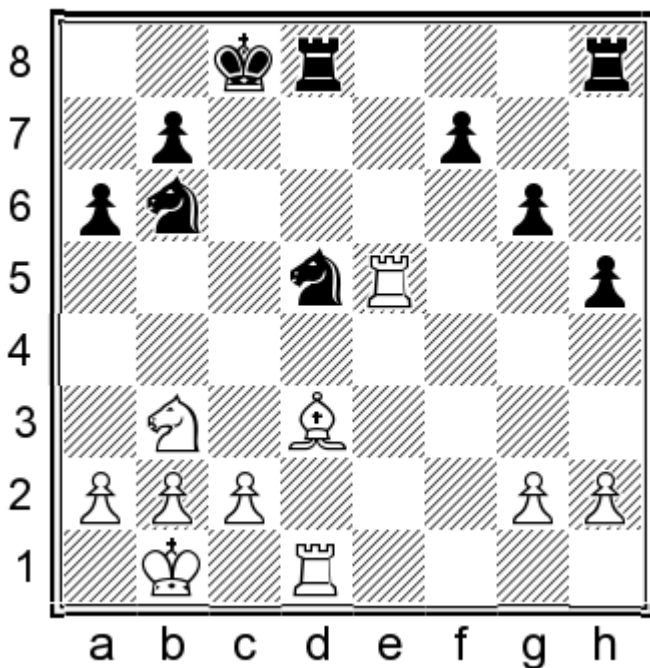
81. * !N B90

Sarana, Alexey (2649) - Kokarev, Dmitry (2631)

Cheboksary (rapid) 148/81, 2021

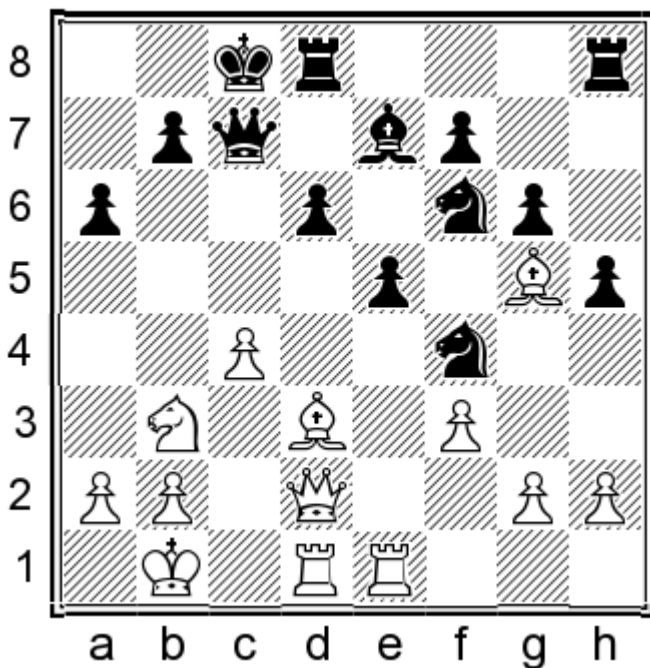
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.f3 h5 9.Nd5 Bxd5 10.exd5 Nbd7 11.Qd2 g6 12.O-O-O Nb6 13.Kb1 Nbxtd5 14.Bg5 Be7 15.Bd3 Qc7 16.Rhe1 O-O-O

16...Nb6 17.f4 (17.Qe2 - 138/(101)) 17...O-O-O 18.Qe2 Nfd5 19.Bxe7 (19.c4 Nb4 20.Be4 Bxg5 21.fxg5 Kb8 ∞) 19...Qxe7 20.fxe5 dxe5 21.Qxe5 Qxe5 22.Rxe5



22...Nf4N (22...Rhe8 23.Rxe8 Rxe8 24.Nc5 Re5 (24...f5 =) 25.Ne4 Kc7 =) 23.Rf1 Nxd3 24.cxd3 f6 25.Re7 Nd5 26.Rc1+ Kb8 27.Rg7 Rhg8 = 28.Rf7 Rgf8 29.Rg7 Rg8 30.Rf7 Rgf8 31.Rg7 Rg8 1/2 (31) Dominguez Perez,L (2758)-Duda,J (2729) chess24.com (Int. -rapid) 148/(81) 2021

17.c4 Nf4



18.Bxf6!N

18.Bxf4 - 146/86

18...Bxf6 19.Be4 Kb8?!

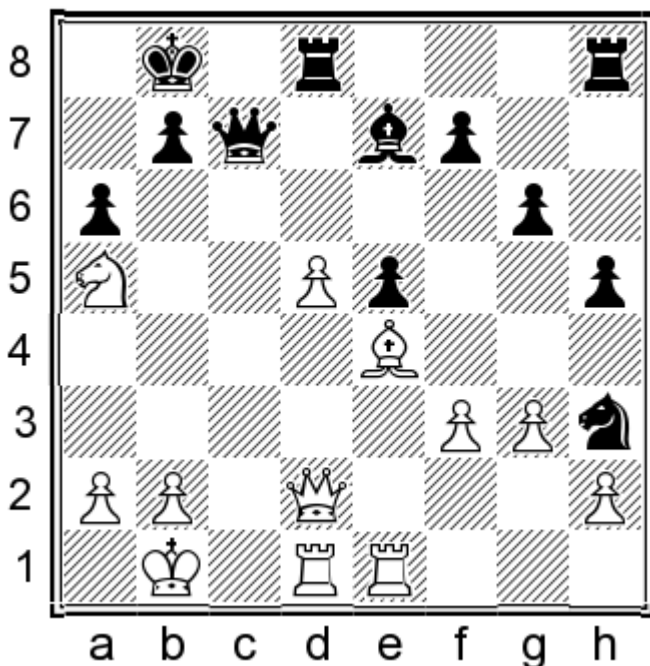
19...Ne6 20.Na5 Nc5 21.Bd5 Rd7 22.b4²

20.Na5 d5?!

20...Nxb7 21.Rg1 Ne3 22.Nxb7 Nxd1 23.Nxd8 Rxd8 24.Rxd1 Qc5

(24...Qxc4? 25.Qe3 Qc7 (25...Qc5 26.Qb3+ Qb5 27.Qxf7 +-) 26.Rc1 +-)
25.a3²

21.cxd5 Be7 22.g3 Nh3



22...Ne6 23.Nxb7! Qxb7 24.dxe6 Rxd2 25.Bxb7 Rxd1+ 26.Rxd1 Kxb7
27.Rd7+ Kc6 28.Rxe7 f5 29.Rg7 ±

23.Re3! f5 24.Rc1 +- Qd7

24...Bc5 25.Rb3 +- -

25.Rb3

25.Nxb7 Qxb7 (25...Kxb7 26.Rb3+ Ka7 27.Qa5) 26.Rb3 Qxb3 27.axb3 fxe4
28.Qc3

**25...fxe4 26.Rxb7+ Qxb7 27.Nxb7 Kxb7 28.fxe4 Rhf8 29.Qa5 Rc8 30.Rc6
Rxc6 31.dxc6+ Kxc6 32.Qxa6+ Kd7 33.Qb7+ Ke6 34.a4 Bd6 35.a5 Nf2
36.a6 Ng4 37.a7 Nxh2 38.a8=Q Rxa8 39.Qxa8 Ng4 40.Qd5+ Ke7 41.b4
Nf6 42.Qb7+ Ke6 43.b5 g5 44.Qc8+ Ke7 45.Qf5 h4 46.Qxg5 hxg3 47.Kc2
1-0**

82. * B91

Perunovic, Miodrag (2428) - Ratkovic, Milovan (2462)

Srbija 148/82, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 a6 3.Nge2!? b5 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 e6 6.d4 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nf6

7...b4 8.Na4 Nf6 9.c4!² (9.O-O - 113/52, B)

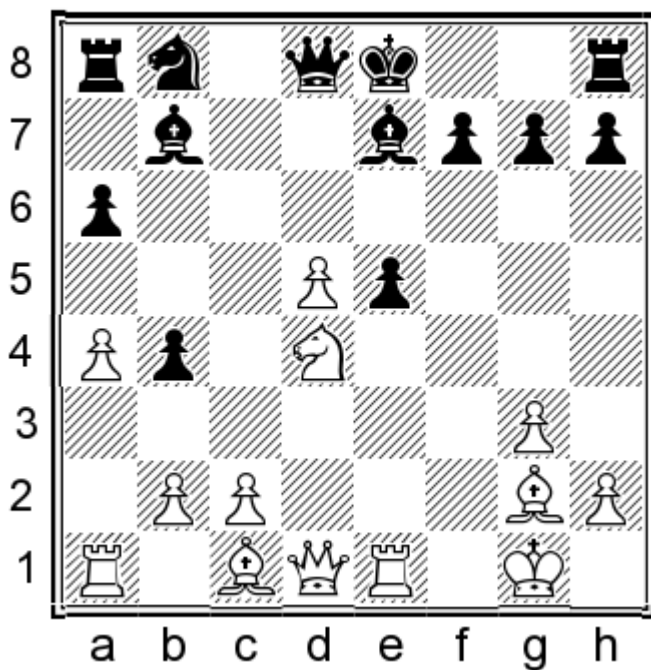
8.O-O d6?!

8...b4 9.Na4 Bxe4 10.Bxe4 Nxe4 ∞ -

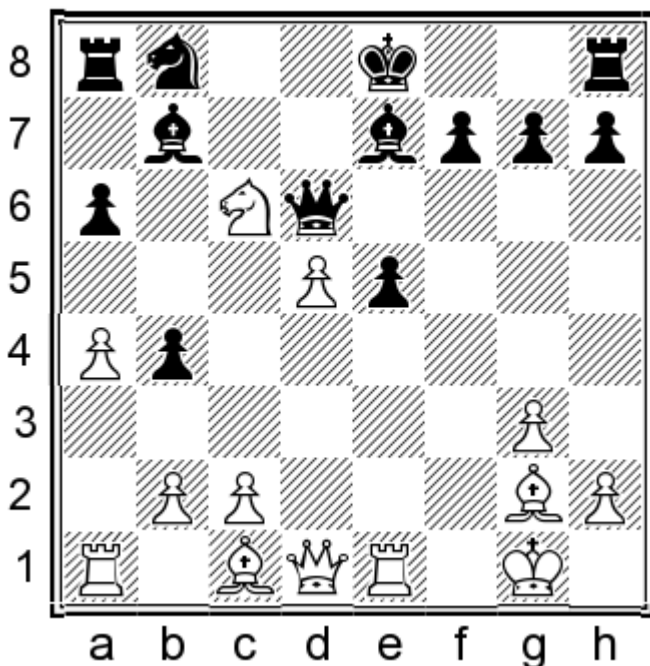
9.Re1!f e5

9...Qc8 - 10/541

9...Nfd7?! 10.a4 b4 11.Nd5! exd5 12.exd5+ Ne5 13.f4 Be7 14.fxe5 dxe5

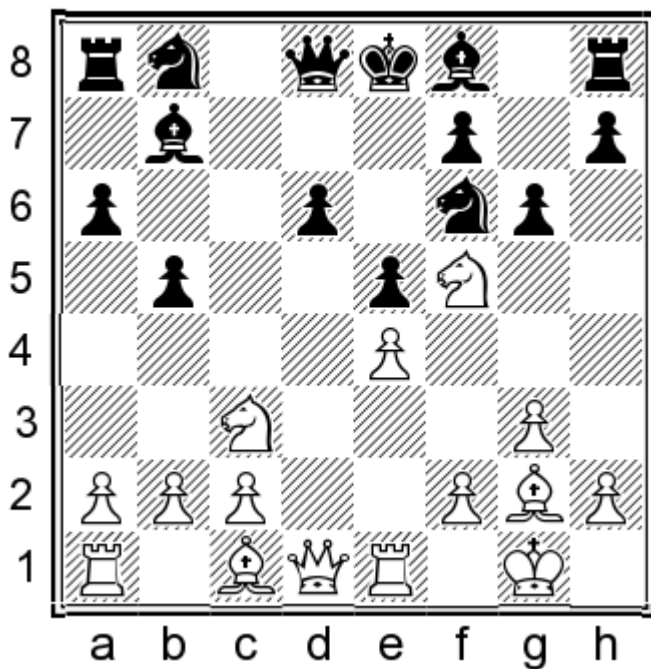


15.Nc6N (15.Nf5) 15...Qd6



(15...Bxc6 16.dxc6 Qxd1 17.Rxd1 Ra7 18.Be3 Rc7 19.Bb6 Rxc6 (19...Rc8 20.c7 +-) 20.Bxc6+ Nxc6 21.c3 +-) 16.Nxe7 (16.Bf4 Nxc6 17.dxc6 Bc8 18.Bxe5 +-) 16...Kxe7 17.c4 Nd7 18.b3 f6 19.Qg4 Kf8 20.Be3 Nc5 21.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 22.Kh1 Bc8 23.Qf3 Kg8 24.d6 Rb8 25.Qd5+ Qxd5 26.Bxd5+ Kf8 27.c5 +- Maze,S (2557)-Maghsoodloo,P (2676) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/ (82) 2020

10.Nf5 g6



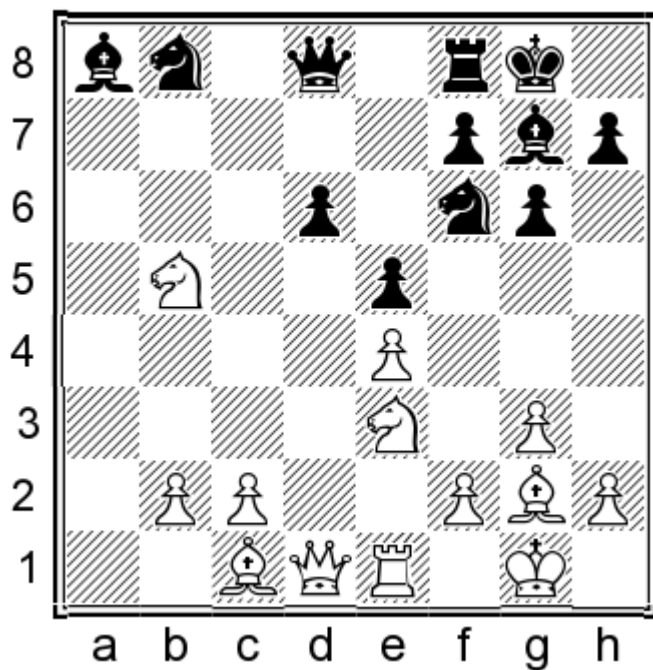
11.Ne3! ±

11.Nh6!? ±

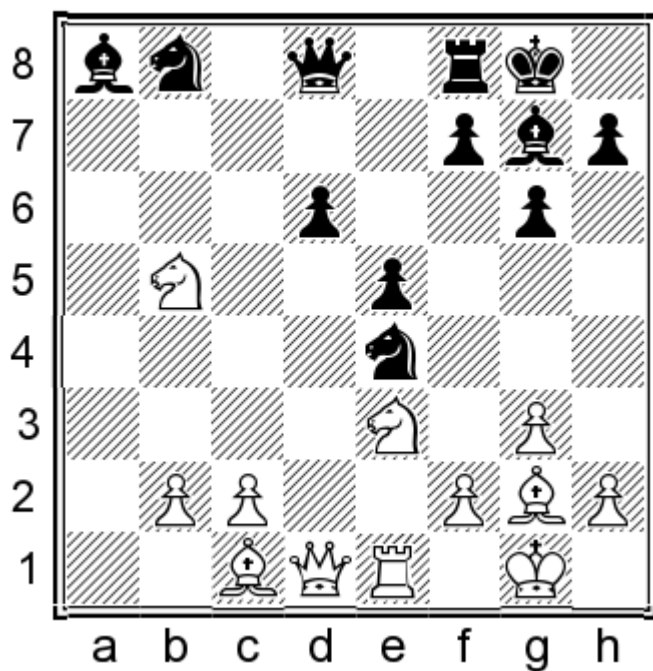
11...Bg7 12.a4! O-ON

12...b4 13.Ncd5 Nxd5 14.Nxd5 a5 15.c3 bxc3 16.bxc3 ±

13.axb5 axb5 14.Rxa8 Bxa8 15.Nxb5



15...Nxe4?!



15...Bxe4 16.Nxd6 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 ±

16.Nxd6! + - Nxd6 17.Bxa8 Na6 18.Bg2 e4 19.Nd5 Re8 20.b3 Nc5 21.Ba3 Ncb7 22.c4 Kh8 23.Qd2 f5 24.Bb2 Qd7 25.Nf6 Bxf6 26.Bxf6+ Kg8 27.Bb2 Qf7 28.Qd4 Kf8 29.Ba3 Re6 30.Rd1 1-0

83. * B91

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789)

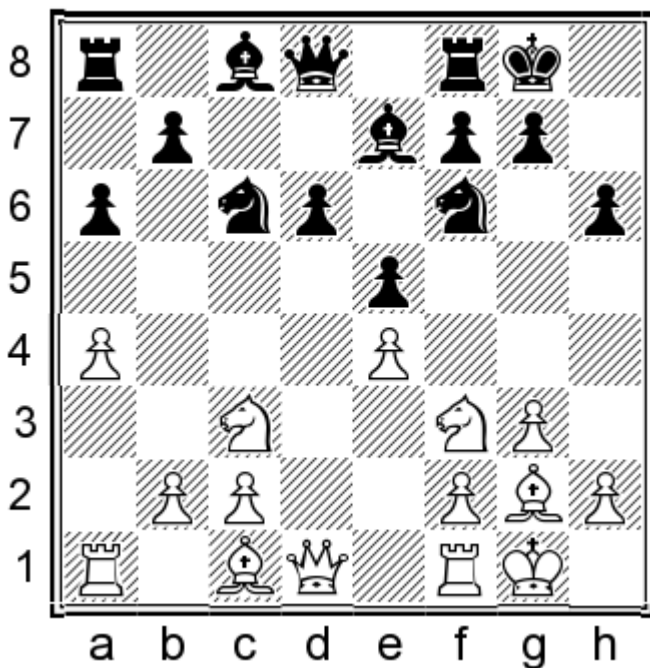
chess24.com (Int.-m2/4-rapid) 148/83, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.a4 e5 7.Nf3 h6 8.g3

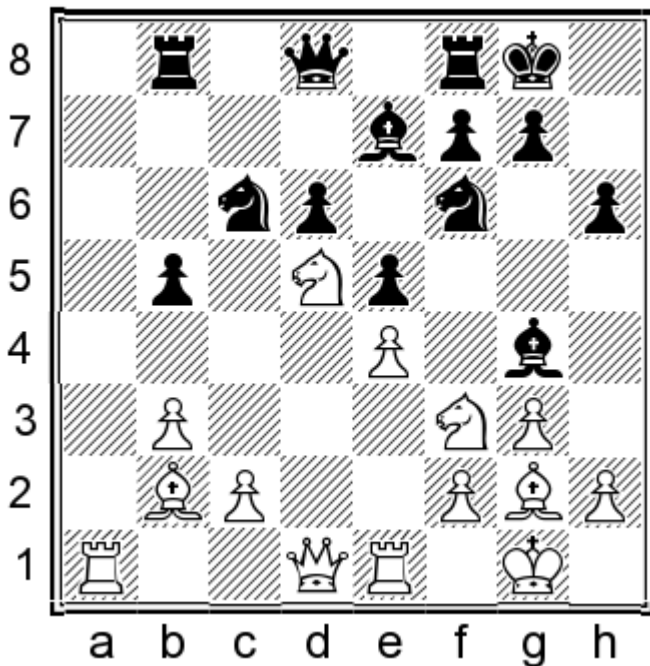
8.Bc4 - 91/214

8...Be7 9.Bg2 O-O

9...Nc6 10.O-O O-O

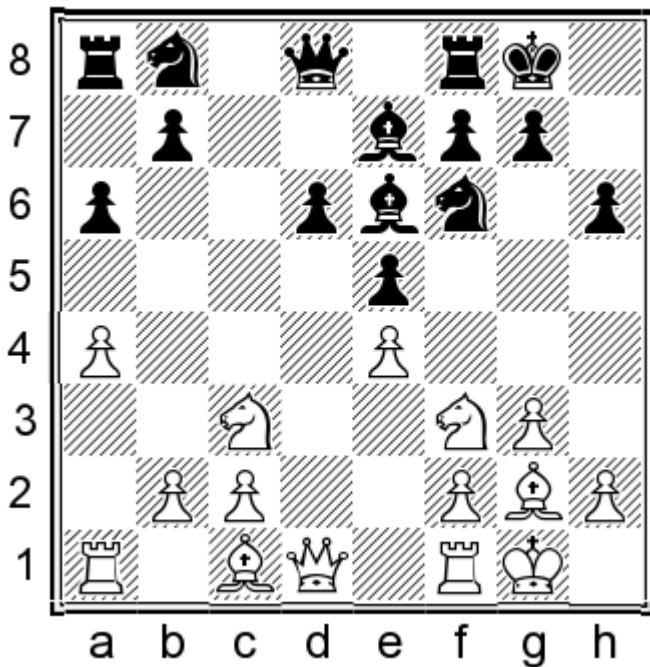


11.Re1N (11.h3) 11...Rb8 12.b3 b5 13.axb5 axb5 14.Nd5 Bg4 15.Bb2



15...Nxd5 (15...Qd7 16.Ne3 (16.Nxe7+ Nxe7,,) 16...Be6 (16...Nxe4? 17.Nxg4 Qxg4 18.Rxe4 Qxe4 19.Nxe5 +-) 17.Nh4 Bd8∞) 16.exd5 Nd4 17.Bxd4 exd4 18.Qd3 Bxf3 19.Bxf3 Re8 20.Ra6± Giri,A (2764) -Nepomniachtchi,I (2789) chess24. com (Int.-rapid) 148/(83) 2021

10.O-O Be6



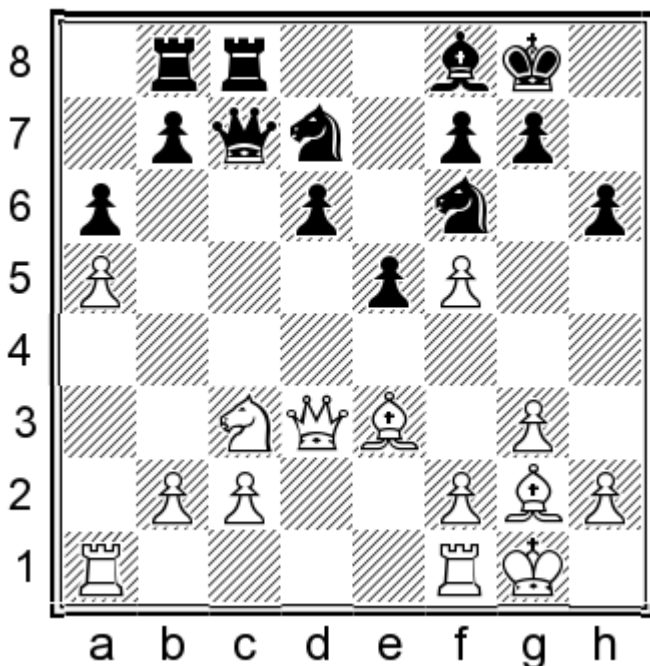
11.Nh4N

11.Re1

11...Nbd7?!

11...Bg4 12.Qd3 Nc6 13.h3 Be6 14.Nd5 (14.Nf5?! Bxf5 15.exf5 Nb4 16.Qe2 Qc7 17.Rd1 Rfd8³) 14...Nd4 15.Nf5 Bxd5 16.exd5 Nxf5 17.Qxf5 Qc8 18.Qxc8 Raxc8 19.c3 Nd7 ∞

12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.exf5 Qc7 14.a5 Rab8 15.Be3 Rfc8 16.Qd3 Bf8



17.Rfc1! ± b6

17...Qc4 18.h3 Qxd3 19.cxd3 ±

18.axb6 Nxb6 19.Rxa6 Nc4 20.Nd5

20.Rc6 Qxc6 21.Bxc6 Rxc6 22.b3 Nxe3 23.fxe3 +-

20...Qd8 21.b3 Nxe3 22.Qxe3 +- Rc5 23.c4 Qc8 24.Nxf6+ gxf6 25.Ra7 Qxf5 26.Bd5 Qg5 27.Rb1 Qxe3 28.fxe3 Rb4 29.Bxf7+ Kh8 30.Bd5 Rc8 31.Kg2 Rcb8 32.Rf7 Bg7 33.Ra1 1-0

84. B92

Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2758) - Giri, Anish (2776)
chess24.com (Int.-m2/3-rapid) 148/84, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.O-O O-O 9.Qd3 Be6 10.Bd2 Nc6 11.Nd5 Bxd5

11...a5 - 146/88

12.exd5 e4 13.Qe3

13.Qc4 Ne5 14.Qb4 Qd7 15.a4 Rac8 ∞

13...Nxd5

13...Ne5 14.c4 Rc8 15.Rac1 Qd7 16.Nd4 Rfe8 17.h3 g6 18.b3 Bf8 19.Rfe1²

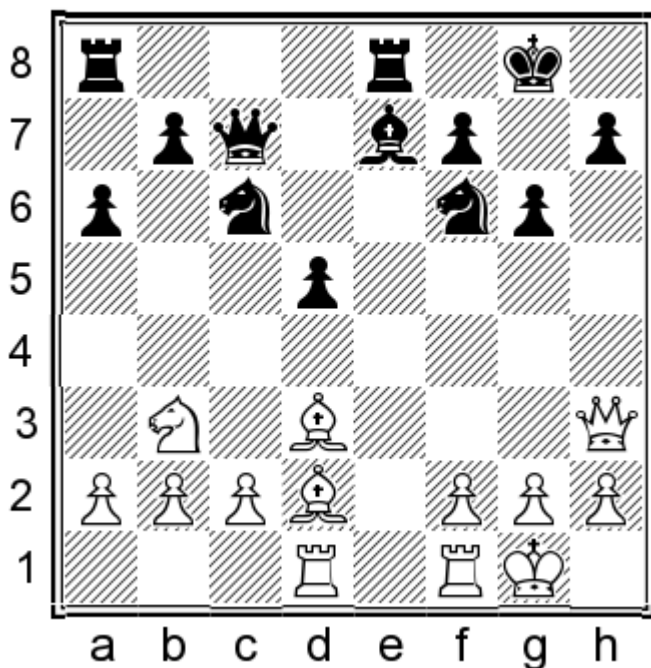
14.Qxe4 Nf6 15.Qf5

15.Qd3 d5 16.Rad1 Qc7 17.g3 Rfe8 18.c3 Rad8 =

15...d5 16.Rad1

16.Rfe1 g6 17.Qh3 Ne4 18.Be3 Bg5 =

16...g6 17.Qh3 Qc7 18.Bd3 Rfe8



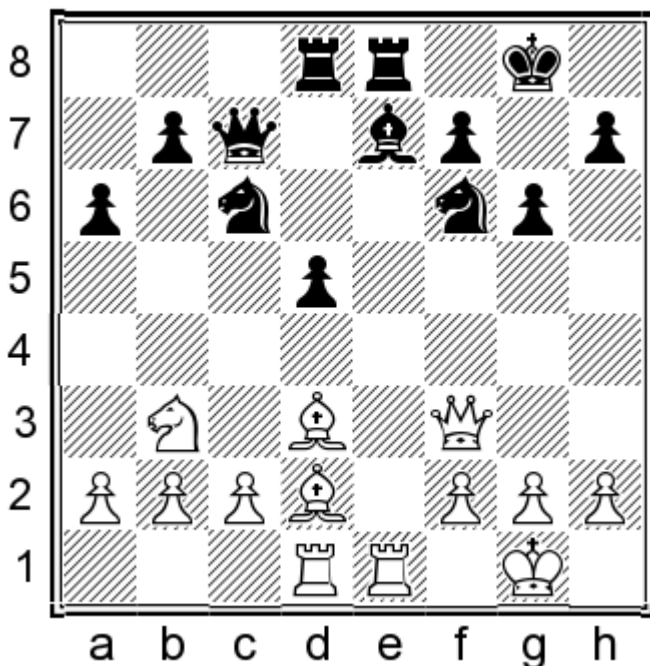
19.Rfe1N

19.f4 Bf8 20.f5 Bg7 21.Kh1 Ne4∞

19...Rad8

19...Bd6 20.Qh4 Ne4 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Rxe4 Bxh2+ 23.Kh1 Rxe4 24.Qxe4 Be5 25.c3 Rd8 =

20.Qf3



20...Nh5!? 21.g4 Ng7 22.Bf4 Bd6 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8

23...Nxe8 24.Bxd6 Qxd6 25.Bf1 Nf6 =

24.Bg3 Bxg3

24...d4 25.Bf1 Ne6 26.Re1 Bxg3 27.Qxg3 Qb6 =

25.hxg3 Ne5 26.Qxd5 Nxg4

26...Ne6 27.Kg2 (27.Be2 Qxc2 28.Qxe5 Ng7 29.Qf4 Qxe2 30.Rd7 Re7 =)

27...Rd8 28.Qe4 Nc4 29.Rb1 b5©

27.Qc4 Qxc4 28.Bxc4 Nf5 29.Bd3

29.Na5 Re7 30.Bd3 Nd4 31.Kg2 Re5 32.Nxb7 (32.Nb3 Nxb3 33.axb3 Rd5 =)

32...Rh5 33.Rd2 Rh2+ 34.Kf1 Rh1+ (34...Nf3 35.Re2 Nge5 36.Be4 Rh1+

37.Kg2 Rg1+ 38.Kh3 Rh1+=) 35.Kg2 Rh2+=

29...Re5 30.f3 Nf6 31.Kf2 h5 32.Rd2 Kf8 33.Re2 Rxe2+ 34.Bxe2 Ke7

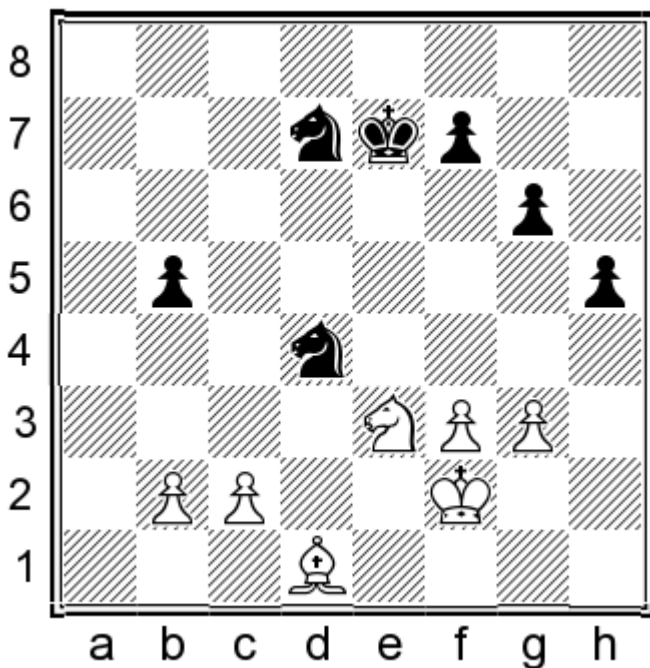
35.Na5

35.Nc5 Nd6 =

35...b6 36.Nc4 Nd7

36...Nd5 37.c3 b5 38.Nd2 Nb6 =

37.a4 Nd4 38.Bd1 b5 39.axb5 axb5 40.Ne3



40...Kd6

40...Nc5 41.c3 Ndb3 42.Be2 Nc1 43.Bxb5 N1d3+ 44.Ke2 Nxb2 =

41.c3 Ne6 42.b4 f5 43.f4 Nf6

43...h4 =

44.Bf3 h4 45.c4 hxg3+ 46.Kxg3 bxc4 47.Nxc4+ Kc7 48.b5 g5 49.b6+ Kb8 50.fxg5 Nxg5 51.Bc6 Ne6 52.Ne5 f4+ 53.Kh4 Nd4 54.Bh1 f3 55.Nxf3 Nxf3+ 56.Bxf3 Nd7 57.Bh1 Nxb6 1/2-1/2

85. B92

Hovhannisyan, Robert (2642) - Ter Sahakyan, Samvel (2640)
Armenia (ch) 148/85, 2021

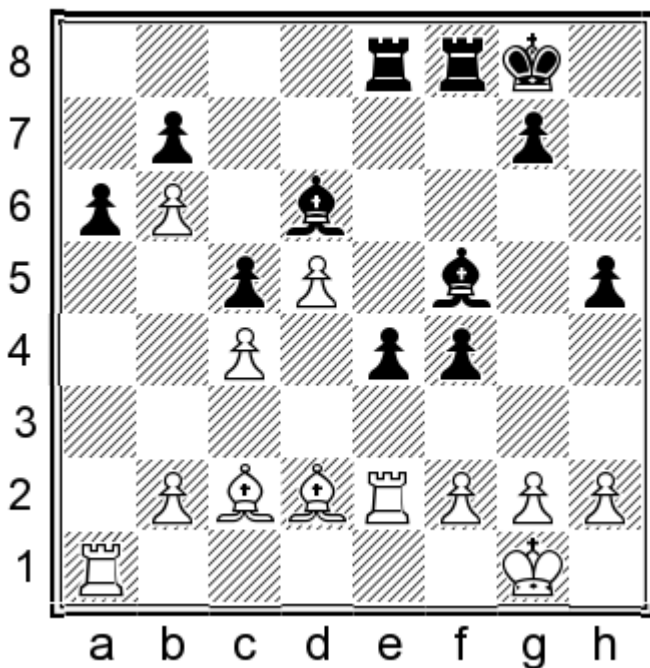
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.Be3 Be6 9.O-O O-O 10.Qd3 Nbd7 11.a4 Rc8 12.a5 Qc7 13.Rfd1 Rfd8 14.Bf3 Nc5 15.Nxc5 dxc5 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 f5 18.Qb3 Bf7 19.c4

19.d6 - 146/(87)

19...e4 20.Be2 f4 21.Bd2 Rf8 22.Bg4 Rce8 23.Qb6 Qxb6 24.axb6 Bd6

24...h5 25.Bf5 Bd6 26.Bc3 h4 27.Re1 e3 28.Bg4 Kh7 29.b3 g5 ∞

25.Re1 h5 26.Bd1 Bg6 27.Bc2 Bf5 28.Re2



28...Re7N

28...g5 29.Rf1 g4 30.g3 f3 31.Ree1 h4 ∞

29.Bc3 Rfe8

29...Be5 30.Bxe5 Rxe5 31.Rae1 Rfe8 32.h4 Kf7 ∞

30.Rae1 Bh7 31.g3 f3 32.Re3 h4 33.Rb1 hxc3 34.hxc3 Rc8

34...Kf7 35.Kf1 Bf5 36.Rbe1 g5 ∞

35.Kf1 Kf7 36.Ke1?!

36.Rbe1 Rce8 37.Ba4 Rh8 =

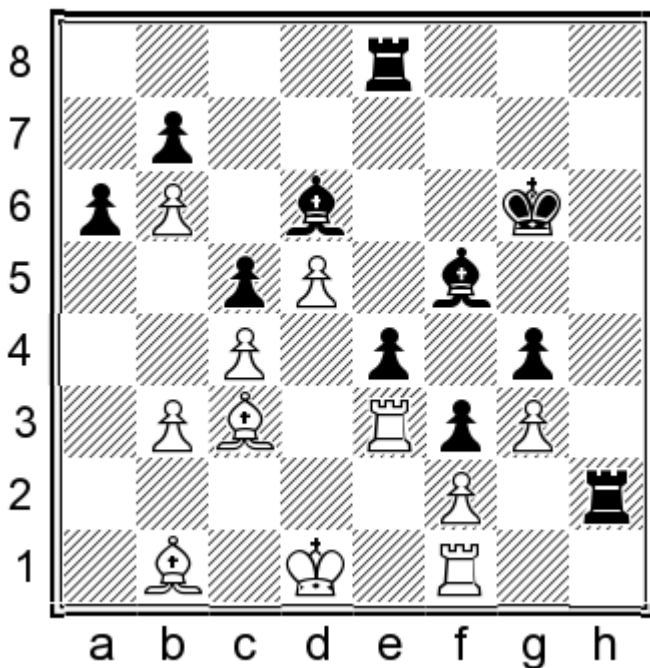
36...Bf5 37.Kd2 Rh8³ 38.Rg1

38.Rf1 Rh2 39.Kc1 Bh3 40.Rfe1 Rxf2 41.Bxe4 Rxe4 42.Rxe4 Rh2 43.Be5 Bxe5 44.Rxe5 f2 45.Rd1 Rg2³

38...Rh2 39.Ke1 g5μ 40.Bb1 g4 41.Rf1 Kg6?!

41...Re8 42.Kd1 Bf8 43.Ree1 Bh6 44.Rh1 Rh3μ

42.Kd1 Re8 43.b3



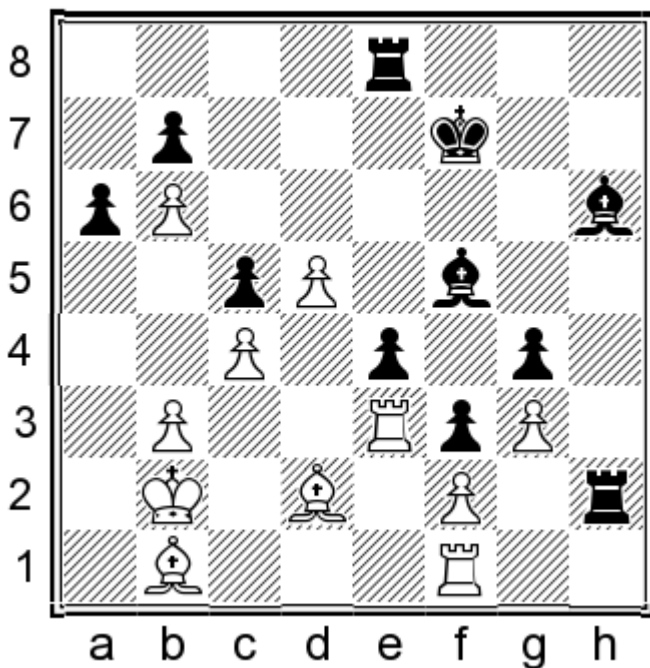
43...Kf7?!

43...Bf8! 44.Bd2 Bh6μ

44.Bd2 Bf8 45.Kc1

45.Ree1 Bg7 (45...Bh6 46.Bxh6 Rxh6 47.Re3 Rxb6 48.Rfe1 a5 49.Bxe4 Bxe4 50.Rxe4 Rxe4 51.Rxe4 Rxb3 52.Kc2 Rb4 53.d6 Rb6 54.d7 Rd6 55.Rxg4 Ke7 56.Rg7+ Kf6 57.Rg4 Rxd7 58.Rf4+ Ke5 59.Rxf3 a4 =) 46.Be3 Bd4 47.b4 Bxe3 48.Rxe3 cxb4 49.Kc2 ∞

45...Bh6! 46.Kb2



46.Ree1 e3! 47.Bxe3 Bxe3+ 48.fxe3 Bxb1 49.Kxb1 Ke7- +

46...Bg7+!

46...Bxe3? 47.Bxe3 Reh8 (47...Rc8 48.b4! cxb4 49.c5 ±) 48.b4! cxb4 49.c5 ±

47.Ka3 Bd4- + 48.d6 Re6 49.d7 Ke7 50.Rd1 Kxd7 51.Bc3 Rxf2 52.Bxe4 Ke7

52...Rxe4 53.Rxe4 Bxe4 54.Bxd4 cxd4 55.Rxd4+ Kc6 56.Rxe4 Rf1!

53.Bxd4 cxd4 54.Rxd4 Re2 55.Bxf5 R2xe3 56.Rxg4 Rxb6 57.Ka4 Rxb3 58.Rf4 b6 59.c5 bxc5 60.Ka5 Rb4 0-1

86. B94

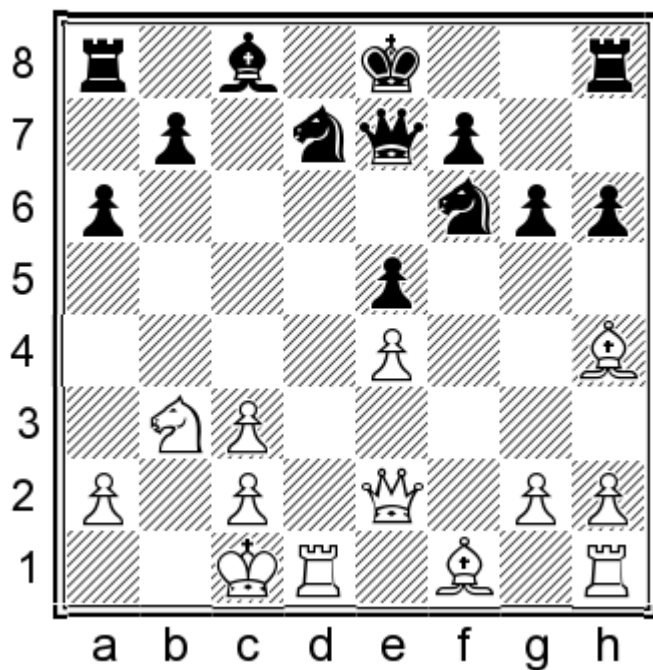
Zakhartsov, Vladimir (2486) - Savchenko, Boris (2552)

Moscow (rapid) 148/86, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.Qe2 h6 8.Bh4 g6 9.f4 e5 10.fxe5 dxe5 11.Nb3

11.Nf3 - 147/82

11...Bb4 12.O-O-O Bxc3 13.bxc3 Qe7



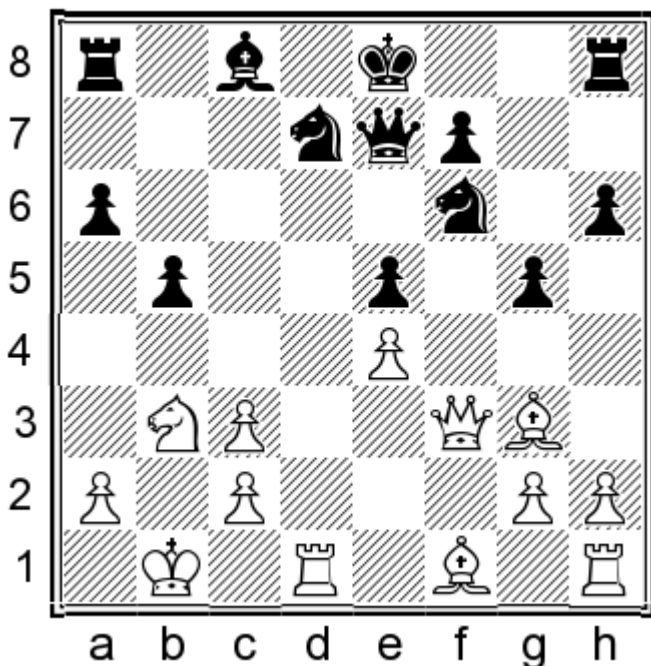
14.Qf3N

14.Kb1

14...b5

¹14...O-O 15.Kb1 Qe6 16.c4 b6 ∞

15.Kb1 g5 16.Bg3?



16.Bf2 Bb7 17.Bd3 Rc8 18.h4 g4 19.Qe3 Qe6 (19...Rxc3?! 20.Be1 Nxe4 (20...Rc6 21.Na5 Rb6 22.Rf1 ±) 21.Rf1 Kf8 22.Qe2 ±) 20.Rhf1 O-O 21.Be1 Ne8 ∞

16...Nb6! 17.Qe3 Na4 18.Ka1

18.c4 O-O (18...Nxe4- +) 19.c5 Nxe4 20.Be1 Bf5- +

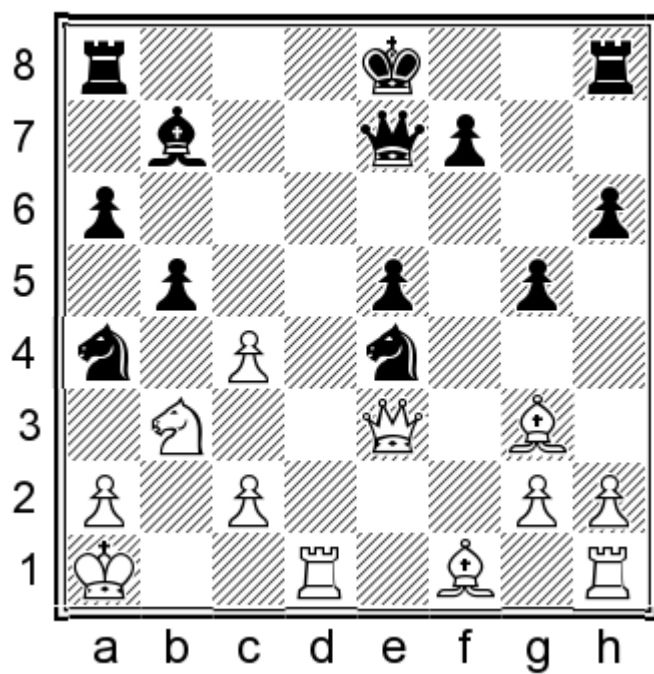
18...Bb7

18...Bg4 19.Rb1 Rc8 20.Be1 Be6 21.Be2 Qb7μ; 18...Be6 19.Bxe5 (19.Be2 Nd7 20.Be1 Rc8μ) 19...Ng4 20.Qd4 Nxe5 21.Qxe5 O-Oμ

19.c4

19.h4 Nxe4 20.Be1 (20.hxg5? Qa3- +) 20...O-O 21.hxg5 Rfd8 22.Rb1 Qxg5μ

19...Nxe4



19...O-O 20.h4 Ng4 21.Qc1 Nc3 22.Re1 Nxe4μ

20.cxb5?!

20.Be1 O-O 21.Na5 Rab8μ

20...Nac3

20...O-O! 21.bxa6 Bxa6 22.c4 (22.Qxe4 Qa3- +) 22...Bb7 23.Nc1 Nac3- +

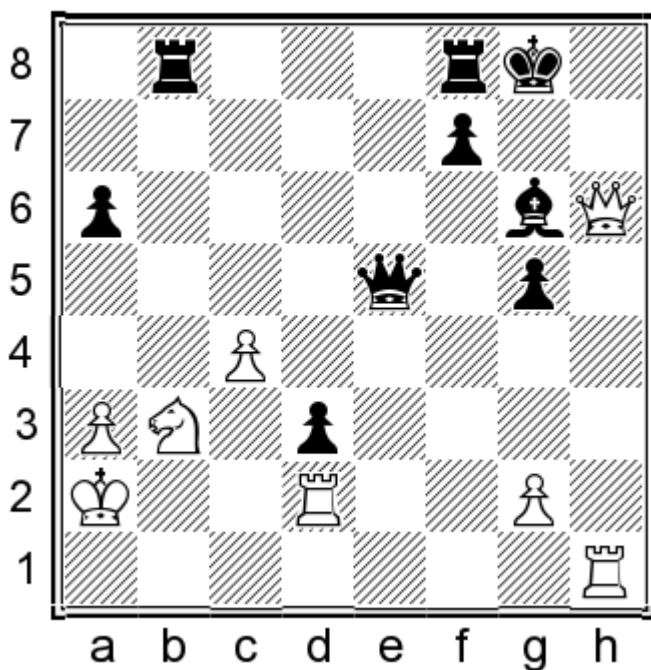
21.Rd3 Nxb5 22.c4 Nbd6 23.Rd1 Nf5 24.Qb6 O-O 25.Bd3 Nexg3

25...a5! 26.Bxe4 (26.Nxa5 Qa3- +) 26...Bxe4 27.Rhe1 a4 28.Rxe4 axb3
29.Qxb3 Rfb8- +

26.hxg3 e4 27.g4 exd3 28.gxf5 Qe5+ 29.Kb1

29.Qd4 Qxd4+ 30.Nxd4 Rfd8 31.Nb3 (31.Rxd3 Rac8 32.Rxh6 Rxc4- +)
31...Bxg2 32.Rxh6 Kg7- +

29...Be4 30.Rd2 Bxf5 31.Qxh6 Bg6- + 32.a3 Rab8 33.Ka2

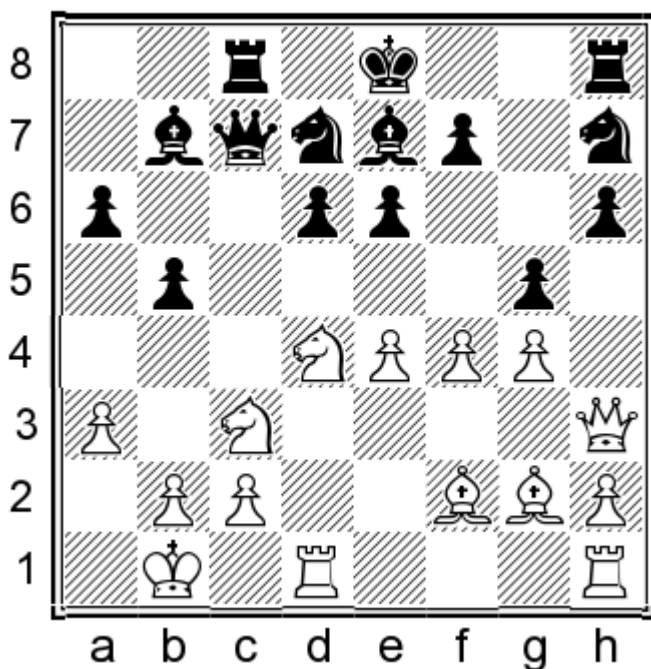


33...Rxb3! 34.Kxb3 Rb8+ 35.Ka2 Qc3 0-1

87. B96

Balzert, Antonius - Raessler, Arndt
corr 148/87, 2020

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 h6 8.Bh4 Qb6 9.a3 Be7 10.Bf2 Qc7 11.Qf3 Nbd7 12.O-O-O b5 13.g4 Bb7 14.Bg2 Rc8 15.Kb1 g5 16.Qh3 Nh7



16...Nc5 - 131/88

17.e5!

17.Qxh6?! Bf6³

17...Bxg2

17...gxf4 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.exd6 Bxd6 20.Rxd6! Qxd6 21.Bxb7 Rxc3
22.Qxc3 + -; 17...b4 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.exd6 Bxd6 20.Rxd6! Qxd6 21.Bxb7
Rxc3 22.bxc3 Qc7 23.Bxa6 bxa3 24.Qd3 Ke7 25.Bd4 Nh6 26.fxg5 hxg5
27.Re1 ±; 17...dxe5 18.fxe5 O-O 19.Bxb7 Qxb7 20.Qxh6 Nxe5 21.Nxe6 fxe6
22.Qxe6+ Rf7 23.Rhe1 Rxc3 24.bxc3 Bf6 25.Bc5 Ng6 26.Rd6 Nh8 27.Qf5
Nh4 28.Qd3 Qf3 29.Bb4 ±

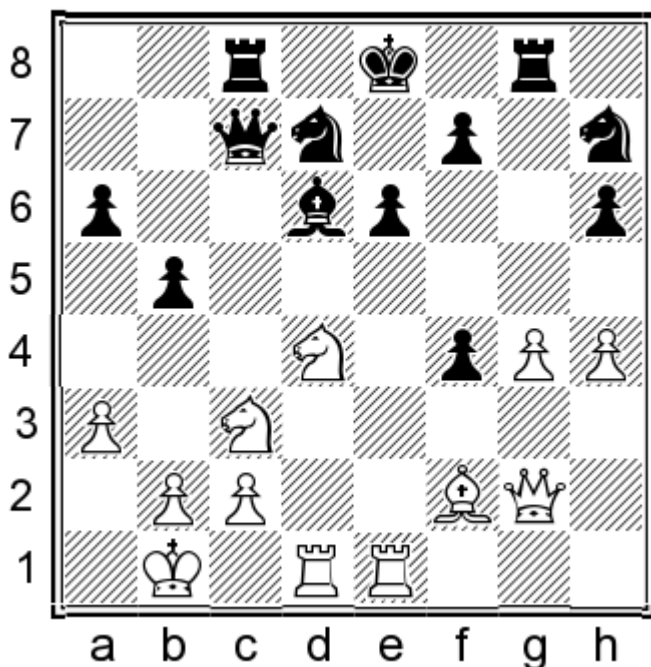
18.Qxg2 gxf4

18...dxe5 19.fxe5 Nb6 20.Qh3 Nf8 21.Ne4 Nd5 22.Qg3 Ng6 23.Nd6+ Bxd6
24.exd6 Qc4 25.h4 gxh4 26.Qf3 Rd8 27.Bxh4 Rxd6 28.Bg3 Rd7 29.Nb3 Qc6
30.Qf2 Kf8 31.Nc5 ±

19.exd6 Bxd6 20.h4 Rg8

20...b4 21.axb4 Bxb4 22.Nxe6 fxe6 23.Qe4 O-O 24.Qxb4 ± ; 20...Bxa3
 21.Rhe1 Bxb2 22.Nd5 Qc5 23.Kxb2 Nhf6 24.Nxf6+ Nxf6 25.Qf3 Nd5
 26.Rd3 Qc4 27.Re2 Kf8 28.g5 hxg5 29.hxg5 ±

21.Rhe1



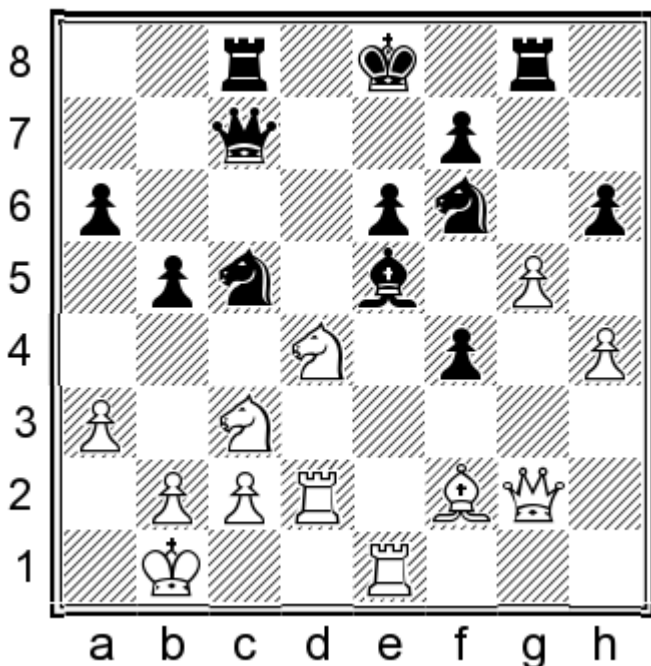
21...Be5

21...f3 22.Qxf3 Ne5 23.Qf4 Nf8 24.Nf5! Bxa3 25.bxa3 Nfg6 26.Qb4 Qxc3
 27.Nd6+ Kf8 28.Nxc8+ Qxb4+ 29.axb4 + -

22.Rd3 Nhf6 23.g5 Nc5

23...Rg7 24.Nf3 hxg5 25.Nxe5 Nxe5 26.Rxe5 Qxe5 27.Bd4 f3 28.Qxf3 g4
 29.Qb7 Qb8 30.Qxb8 Rxb8 31.Bxf6 Kf8 32.Ne4 Rc8 33.b3 Rg6 34.Kb2 ±

24.Rd2



24...Kf8N

24...hgx5 25.hgx5 Kf8 (25...Ncd7 26.Na2 Nd5 27.Nb4 Nxb4 28.axb4 Nf8 29.Qg4 Rd8 30.Rxe5! Qxe5 31.Nc6 Rxd2 32.Nxe5 Rxf2 33.Qg1 Re2 34.Nc6 Kd7 35.Na5 ±; 25...Nfd7 26.Qg4 Kf8 27.Qd1 Rg6 28.Qh5 Bg7 29.b4 Kg8 30.bxc5 Nxc5 31.Rh1 Na4 32.Ne4 Nc3+ 33.Nxc3 Qxc3 34.Qh7+ Kf8 35.Rhd1 ±; 25...Rg6 26.Qf3 Nfd7 27.Qh5 Nb6 28.Rde2 Nc4 29.Rxe5 Nxe5 30.Qh8+ Kd7 31.Qxe5 ±) 26.Rde2 Nfd7 27.Qh1 Rh8 28.Qf3 Bg7 29.Rd1 Ne5 30.Qxf4 Kg8 31.Nf5 exf5 32.Qxf5 Ncd7 33.Nd5 Qc4 34.Ree1 Re8 35.Nf6+ Nxf6 36.gxf6 Qe6 37.Rg1 Ng6 38.Qxe6 Rxe6 39.fgx7 Kxg7 40.Be1 Rhe8 41.Bc3+ Kf8 42.Bb4+ Kg8 43.Rd7 Re2 44.Rc7 R8e6 45.Rf1 Ne7 46.Bc3 Kf8 ±; 24...Nfd7 25.Qg4 hxg5 26.hgx5 Rg6 27.Qh5 Nb6 28.Rde2 Nc4 29.Rxe5 Nxe5 30.Qh8+ Kd7 31.Qxe5 Qxe5 32.Rxe5 Kd6 33.Re1 e5 34.Nf3 Nd7 35.Ne4+ Ke6 36.Kc1 ±

25.Rde2 Nfd7 26.Qh1

26.Ne4 Nxe4 27.Qxe4 hxg5 28.Nf3 Nf6 29.Qd3 Rd8 30.Qb3 Bd6 31.Nxg5 Qc4 32.Qf3 e5 33.Rd2 Qc7 34.Qh3 Rg6 35.Qf5²

26...Rg6

26...hgx5 27.hgx5 Rg6 28.b4 Bg7 29.bxc5 Nxc5 30.Ne4 Nxe4 31.Qxe4 Rxc5 32.Rd1 Re5 33.Qxf4 Rxe2 34.Qxc7 Rxc7 35.Nxe2 Ke7 36.Be1 f5 37.Nf4 Rc4 38.Bb4+ Kf6 39.Bd6 ±; 26...Na4 27.Nxa4 bxa4 28.gxh6 Rh8 29.Qf3 ±

27.gxh6 Rxh6 28.h5 Bf6

28...Qd6 29.Rd1 Qc7 30.Qh4 Bg7 31.Rg1 Nf6 32.Rg5 Qd6 33.Re1 Ncd7
34.Reg1 Rh7 35.Nf3 Re8 36.Rd1 Qc6 37.Qxf4 Nxh5 38.Qb4+ Kg8 39.Nd4
Qc7 40.Rdg1 Qf4 41.R5g2²

29.Qf3 Rh7 30.Rg1 Bg7

30...Be5 31.Qh3 Nf6 32.h6 Qd6 33.Qh4 Ncd7 34.Rd2 Qc7 35.Qg5 f3
36.Nxf3 Bf4 37.Rxd7 Bxg5 38.Rxc7 Rxc7 39.Rxg5 ±

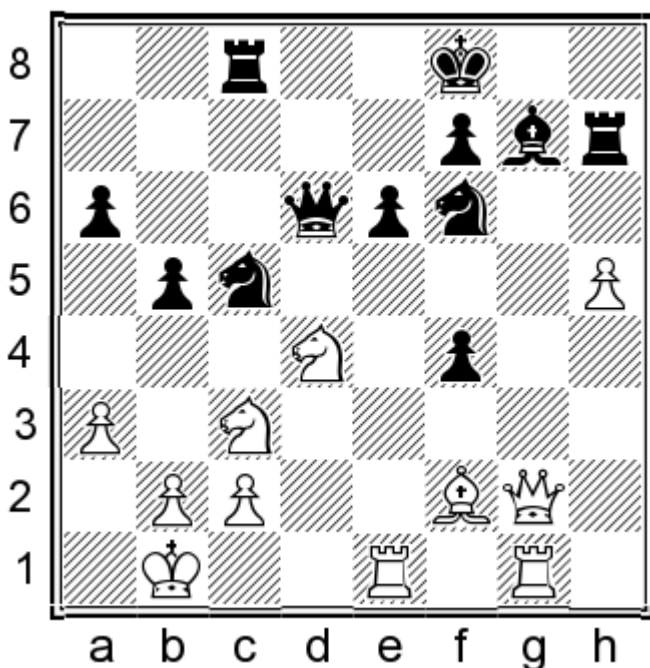
31.Ree1

31.Bh4 Bf6 32.Bf2 Qd6 33.b4 Bxd4 34.bxc5 Qxc5 35.Ne4 Qd5 36.Rd2 Rc4
37.Qxf4 Rxh5 38.Qg4 Ke7 39.Rgd1 Rxc2 40.Rxc2 Qb3+ 41.Kc1 Qxa3+
42.Kd2 Bxf2 43.Nxf2 Nf6 44.Qf4 Nd5 45.Qd4 Qd6 46.Qa7+ Qd7 47.Qb8
Qd6 48.Qxd6+ Kxd6 49.Ra2 ±

31...Qd6

31...Be5 32.Qh1 b4 33.Rxe5 Nxe5 34.axb4 Ncd7 35.h6 Nf6 36.Qh4 Neg4
37.Nxe6+ fxe6 38.Bc5+ Ke8 39.Rxg4 Nxg4 40.Qxg4 Qf7 41.Ne4 Rd8
42.Ng5 ±

32.Qg2 ± Nf6



33.h6!! Bxh6

33...Bh8 34.Qg5 Ncd7 35.Ne4 Nxe4 36.Rxe4 Nf6 37.Rxf4 +-

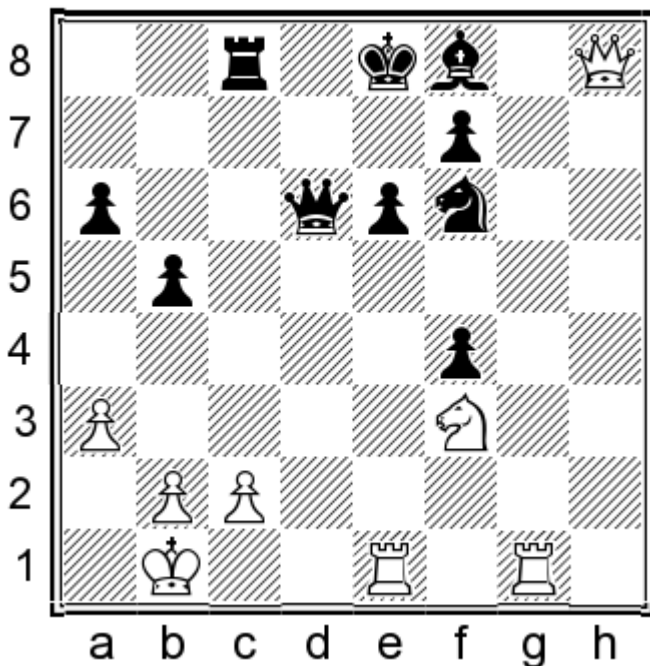
34.Nf3 Ke8

34...Rg7 35.Qh1 Rh7 36.Bd4 Ncd7 37.Ne4 Nxe4 38.Rxe4 Qd5 39.Re2 ±

35.Bd4 Ncd7 36.Bxf6 Nxf6 37.Ne4 Nxe4 38.Qg8+ Bf8 39.Qxh7 Nf6

39...Nd2+ 40.Nxd2 Qxd2 41.Rd1 Qe3 42.Rg8 Qe5 43.Qh6 Ke7 44.Qh4+ Ke8
45.c3 f3 46.Ka1 a5 47.Qf2 ±

40.Qh8



40...b4?

40...Qe7 41.Ne5 Nd7 42.Nxd7 Qxd7 43.Rg8 Qd6 44.Qf6 ± ; 40...Nd5 41.Ng5
Ne3 42.Ne4 Qc6 43.Nf6+ Ke7 44.Re2 ±

41.Qxf6 +- Qc5 42.Ng5 Qxc2+ 43.Ka1 Rc7 44.Rd1 Rd7 45.Rxd7 Kxd7
46.Qxf7+ Kc6 47.Nxe6 Bc5 48.Nxc5 Qxc5 49.Rg6+ Kb5 50.Qe8+ Ka5
51.Qd8+ Ka4 52.Rxa6+ Kb5 53.Ra5+ Kc4 54.b3+ Kxb3 55.Rxc5 f3 56.Rb5
1-0

88. ** B97

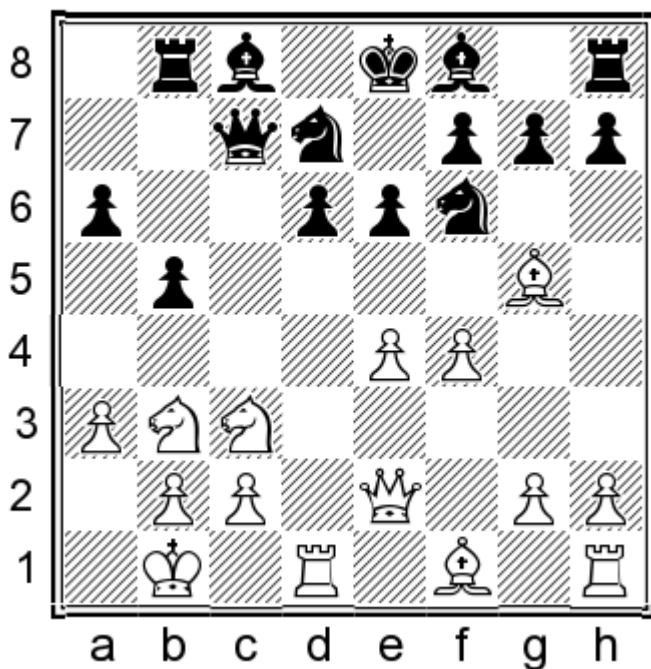
Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789) - Giri, Anish (2776)

chess24.com (Int.-m2/1-rapid) 148/88, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nb3
Nbd7 9.Qe2 Qc7 10.O-O-O b5 11.a3 Rb8

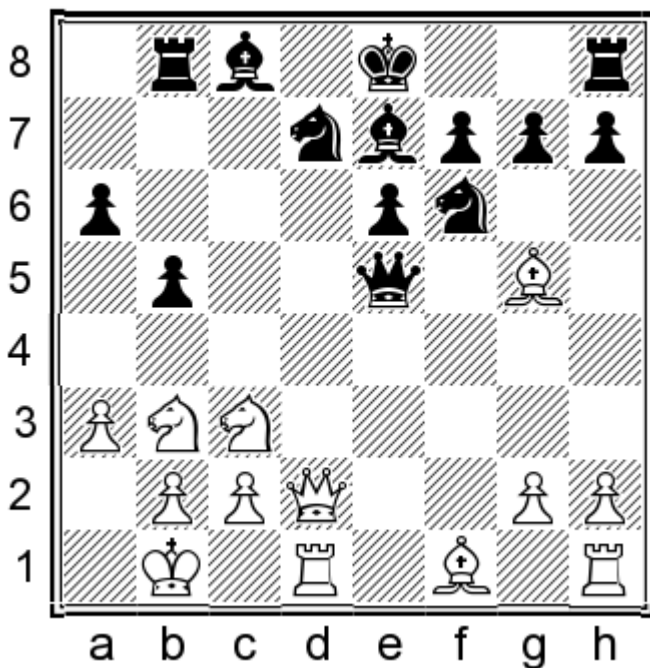
11...Bb7 - 30/488

12.Kb1



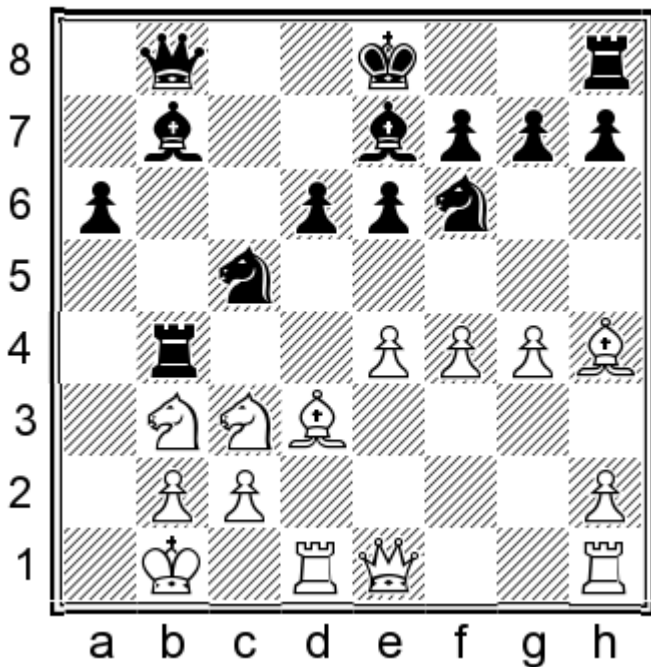
12...Be7 13.Qe1 - 148/88

13.e5?!N - 148/(88) 13...dxe5 14.fxe5 Qxe5 15.Qd2



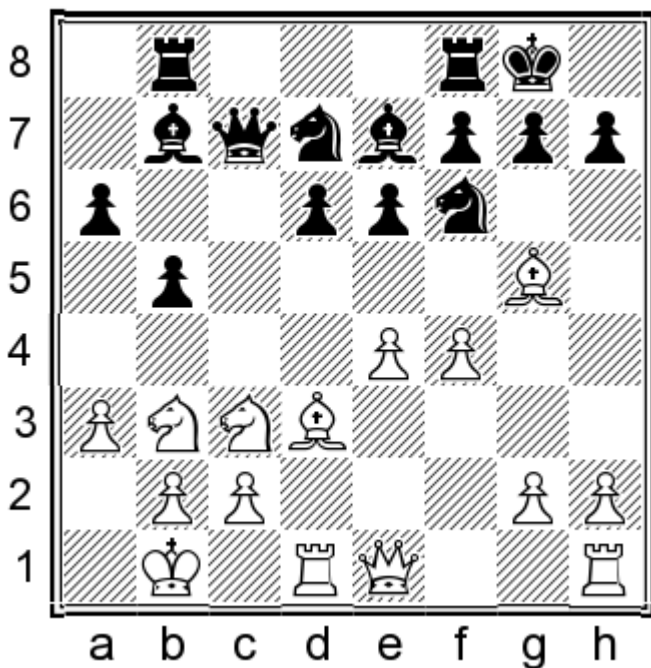
(15.Qxe5 Nxe5 16.Bf4 Nfd7 17.Be2 Bb7μ) 15...b4 (15...Qc7 16.Be2 Bb7 17.Rhe1 O-Oμ) 16.axb4 Rxb4 17.Bd3 Rg4 18.h4 Bb7 19.Bf1 Qc7μ Mazi,L (2354)-Brunello,S (2532) Trieste 148/(88) 2020

13.h4 b4 14.axb4 Rxb4 15.g4 O-O 16.Rh3 = ; 13.Bh4N b4 14.axb4 Rxb4 15.Qe1 Qb8 (15...Bb7!?) 16.g4 Bb7 17.Bd3 Nc5



18.e5 (18.Nxc5 dxc5 19.Na2 Rd4 ∞) 18...dxe5 = Velthuis, P-Kim,V corr 148/
(88) 2021

13...O-O 14.Bd3 Bb7



14...h6 15.Bh4 e5 16.f5 Qd8 17.Rg1 Bb7 (17...Re8,,) 18.g4 Nxe4 19.Bxe4 Bxh4 20.Qd2 b4 21.axb4 Nf6 22.Bxb7 Rxb7 23.Qxd6 Qxd6 24.Rxd6 Rxb4 25.Rxa6 Re8©

15.Qg3N

15.Rf1 h6 16.Bh4 e5 17.fxe5 dxe5 18.Ne2 Rfe8 ∞

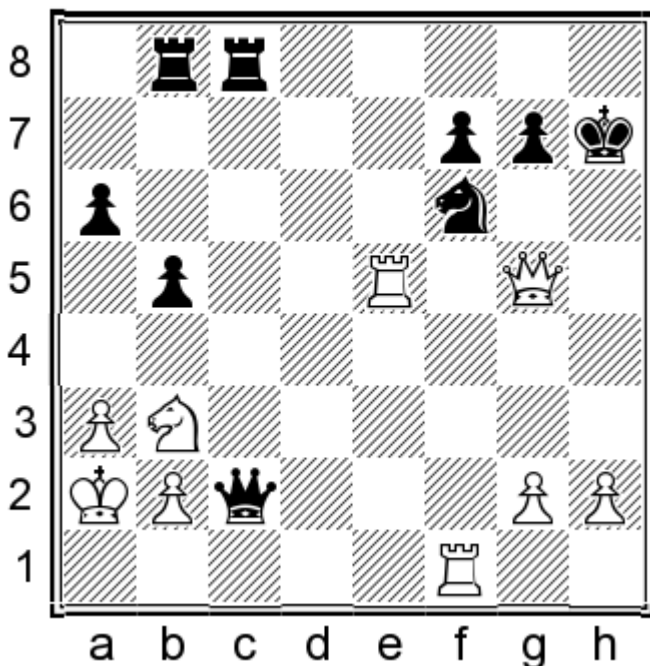
15...Rfc8

15...Rfe8 16.Rhf1 e5 17.fxe5 dxe5 ∞

16.Rhf1 e5

16...Bf8 17.Bxf6 Nxf6 18.e5 Nd5 19.Ne4²

17.fxe5 dxe5 18.Nd5 Nxd5 19.exd5 Bxg5 20.Qxg5 Bxd5 21.Bxh7+ Kxh7 22.Rxd5 Qxc2+ 23.Ka2 Nf6 24.Rxe5



24...Rc3! 25.Qf5+ Kg8

25...Qxf5 26.Rexf5 Rc2 27.R1f2 Rbc8 =

26.Nc5 b4 27.axb4 Rxb4 28.Re8+ Nxe8 29.Qxf7+ Kh7 30.Qh5+ Kg8

31.Qxe8+ Kh7 32.Qh5+ Kg8 33.Qd5+ Kh7 34.Qh5+ Kg8 35.Qf7+ Kh7

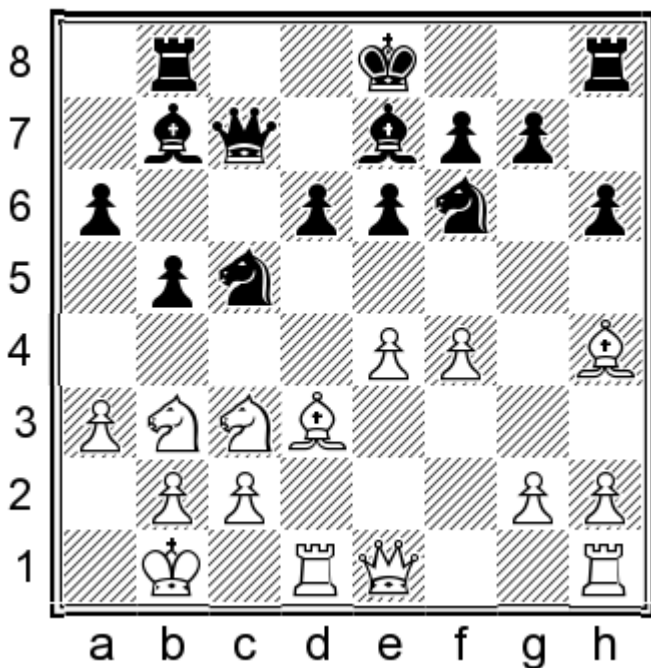
36.Qh5+ 1/2-1/2

89. B97

Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789) - Giri, Anish (2776)

chess24.com (Int.-m2/3-rapid) 148/89, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nb3 Nbd7 9.Qe2 Qc7 10.O-O-O b5 11.a3 Be7 12.Kb1 Rb8 13.Qe1 h6 14.Bh4 Bb7 15.Bd3 Nc5



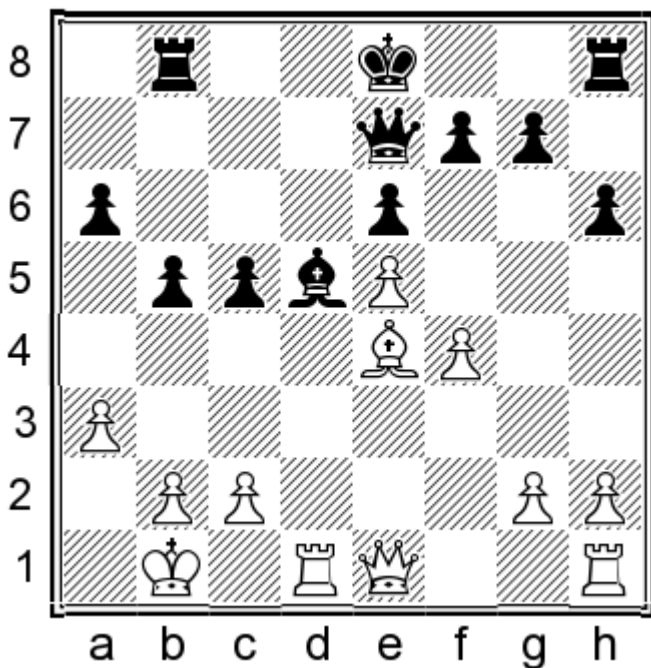
16.Nxc5N

16.f5 e5 (16...Nxd3 17.Rxd3 O-O 18.fxe6 fxe6 19.Nd4 Bc8 20.h3 Bd7 21.e5 dxe5 22.Bg3 Rb6 23.Bxe5 Qb7 ∞) 17.Bxf6 (17.Nxc5 dxc5 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.exd5 O-O 21.Qe4 c4 22.Be2 Rfd8³) 17...Bxf6 18.h4 Na4!,,

16...dxc5 17.e5

17.f5 c4 (17...e5 - 16.f5) 18.Be2 O-O 19.fxe6 fxe6 20.Rf1 Rbd8 =

17...Nd5 18.Nxd5 Bxd5 19.Bxe7 Qxe7 20.Be4



20...b4!

20...Bxe4 21.Qxe4 O-O 22.Rd6 b4 23.a4 b3 24.c3 Rfd8 25.Rhd1 Rxd6
26.exd6 Qd7 27.Kc1 Rb6 28.Qe5 Rb8 29.Qe4 Rb6 =

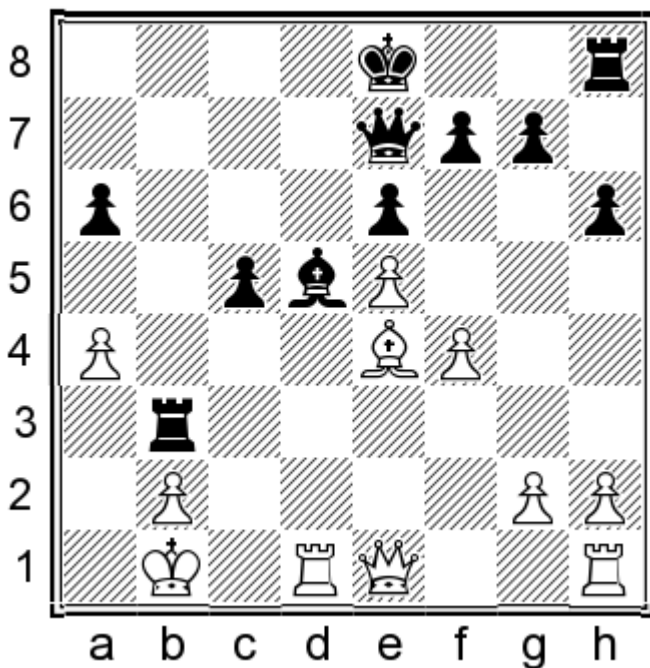
21.a4

21.Bxd5 exd5 22.Qg3 O-O 23.Rxd5 bxa3 24.Qxa3 Rb4 25.Rhd1 (25.Qxa6
Rfb8 26.b3 c4³) 25...Rfb8 26.b3 c4 27.Rd8+ Rxd8 28.Rxd8+ Qxd8 29.Qxb4
Qd1+ 30.Kb2 cxb3 31.Qxb3 Qd4+ 32.Ka2 Qxf4 33.e6 fxe6 34.Qxe6+ Qf7 =

21...b3 22.cxb3

22.c3? Qd7- +

22...Rxb3



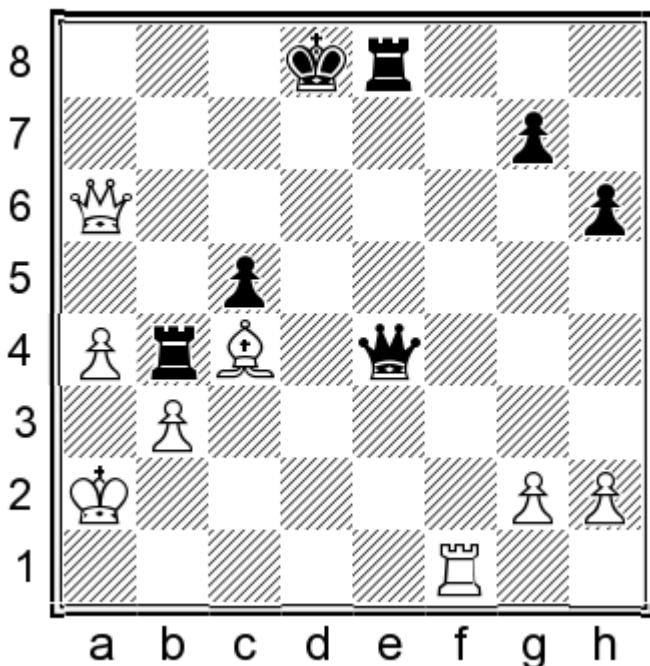
23.Rxd5! exd5 24.Bxd5 Rb4 25.e6 fxe6

25...Qf6 26.exf7+ Kd7 27.Qe5 Qxe5 28.fxe5 Rhb8 29.b3 Rd4 30.Bc4 Rxc4
31.f8=Q Rxf8 32.bxc4 Ke6 33.Rd1 Rf2=

26.Bxe6 Qf6 27.b3 Qxf4 28.Bc4+ Kd8 29.Qe6 Qd4 30.Qxa6

30.Re1 Kc7 31.Qxa6 Kb8 32.Re7 Qd1+ 33.Kb2 Qd2+=

30...Re8 31.Rf1 Qe4+ 32.Ka2



32...Rxc4! 33.Qxc4

33.Qd6+ Kc8 34.Qa6+=

33...Qxc4 34.bxc4 Re2+ 35.Kb3 Re3+ 36.Kb2 Re2+ 37.Kb3 Re3+ 38.Kc2 Re2+ 39.Kd3 Rxc2 40.Rf7 Rxc2

40...g5 41.a5 Ra2 42.Rh7 Rxa5 43.Rxc6 Ra2 =

41.Rxc6 Ra2 42.Ke4 Rxa4 43.Kd5 Ra6 44.Kxc5 Kc8 45.Rh7 Rg6 46.Kb5 Rf6 47.c5 Re6 48.c6 Re1 1/2-1/2

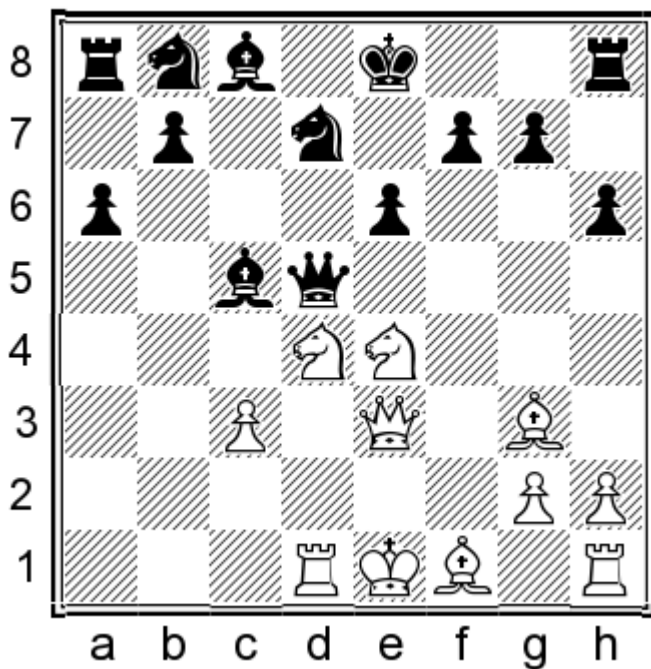
90. * B97

Caruana, Fabiano (2842) - Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2767)
Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/90, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Qd2 Qxb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.e5 h6 11.Bh4 dxe5 12.fxe5 Nfd7 13.Ne4 Qxa2 14.Rd1 Qd5 15.Qe3 Qxe5 16.c3

16.Be2 - 136/(89)

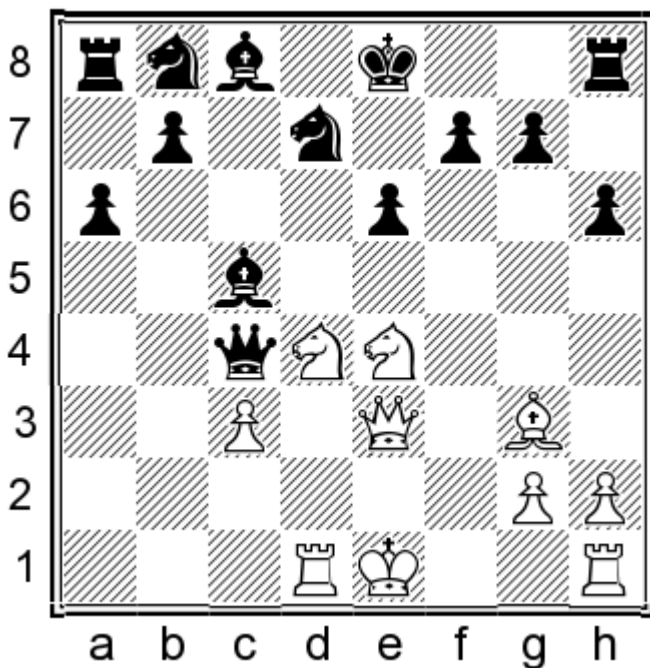
16...Bc5 17.Bg3 Qd5



18.Bc4!?N

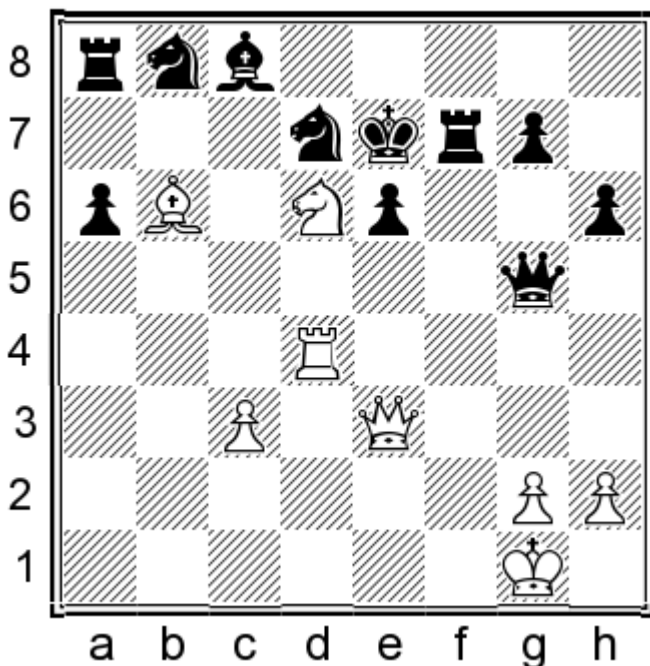
18.Bd6 Bxd6 19.Nb5 Qxd1+ 20.Kxd1 Be5 21.Nbd6+ Ke7 22.Nc4 Rd8 23.Kc2 Bc7 ∞

18...Qxc4



19.Bd6 Nf6 - 148/90

19...Bxd4N 20.Rxd4 Qb5? Fier,A (2569)-Fernandez,D (2458) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(90) 2021 (20...Qb5 21.Bb4! Qh5 22.Nd6+ Kf8 (22...Kd8 23.O-O Rf8 24.Nf5 Qg5 25.Ba5+ b6 26.Bxb6+ Ke8 27.Nd6+ Ke7 28.Rxf7+! Rxf7



29.Bd8+! Kxd8 30.Nxf7+ +- 23.Nxc8+ Kg8 24.Ne7+ Kh7 25.O-O Rf8
26.Qe4+ f5 27.Qxb7 a5 28.Ba3 +-, 20...Qb3 21.Qg3 g6 22.O-O Nc6∞)

**20.Nxc5 Nd5 21.Qe5 Rg8 22.Ndxe6! fxe6 23.Nxe6 Qxc3+ 24.Qxc3 Nxc3
25.Nc7+ Kf7 26.Rd3 Ne4?!**

26...Ra7! 27.Rxc3 Kg6 28.O-O Kh7! 29.Nd5 Nc6 30.Bc5 b6! 31.Nxb6 Be6
32.Bf2 Nd8 33.Ra1 =

27.O-O+ Kg6 28.Nxa8 Nc6 29.Nb6² Rd8 30.Nxc8 Rxc8 31.Ba3

31.Re1 Nf6 32.Rb1 b5 33.Rc1²

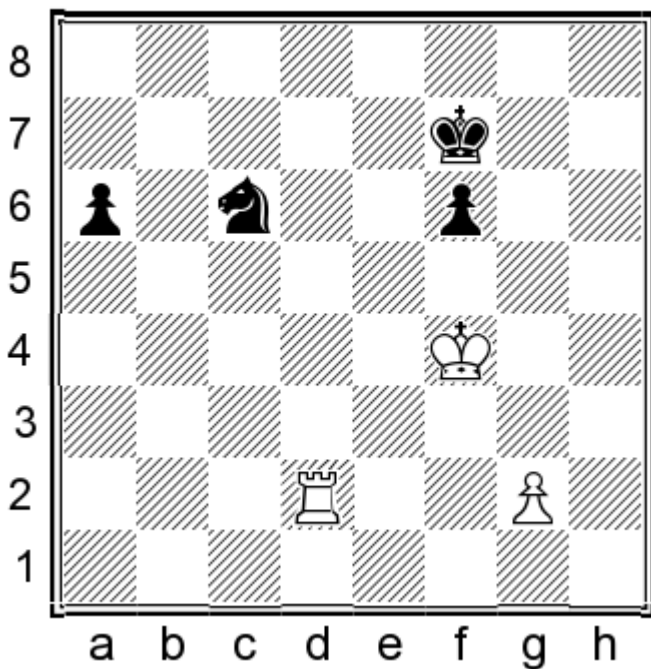
**31...Rc7 32.Rf4 Nf6 33.Bb2 Ne7 34.Bxf6 gxf6 35.h4 h5 36.Rg3+ Kf7
37.Rg5 Rc1+ 38.Kh2 Ng6 39.Rf2 Nxh4 40.Rxh5 Ng6 41.Rh7+ Ke6
42.Rxb7 Ne5 43.Rb6+ Rc6 44.Rxc6+ Nxc6 45.Kg3 Kf7**

45...a5? 46.Kh4 Ne5 47.g4 +-

46.Rc2 Nb4

46...Nd8 47.Ra2 Ne6 48.Rxa6 Nd4 =

47.Rd2 Nc6 48.Kf4



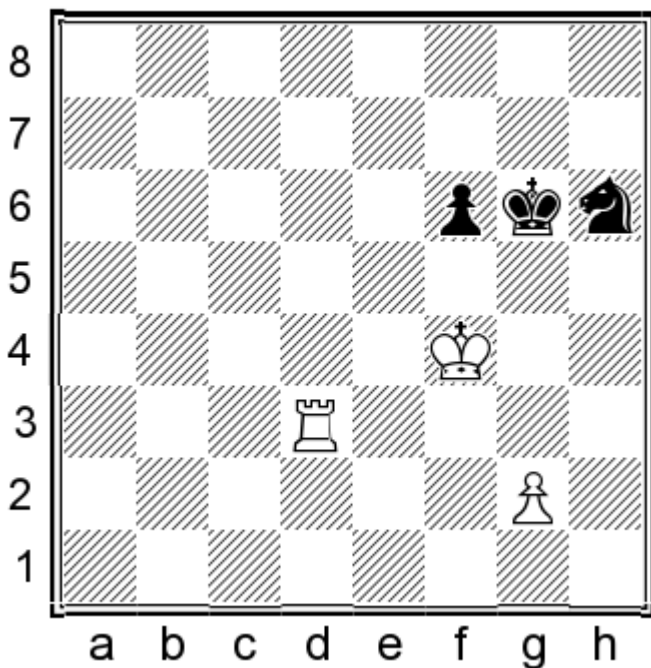
48...Kg6!

48...a5? 49.Rd6 Ne7 50.Rd7 Ke6 51.Ra7 Nd5+ + -; 48...Ke6? 49.Kg4 + -

49.Rd6 Ne5 50.Rxa6 Nf7 51.Ke4 Nh6 52.Ra5 Nf7 53.Ra3 Nd6+ 54.Kf4 Nf5

54...Ne8 =

55.Rd3 Nh6?



55...Ne7 56.Rg3+ Kh7 57.Ke4 Kh6 = ; 55...Ng7 56.Rg3+ Kf7 57.Ra3 Kg6
58.Ra5 Nh5+ 59.Ke4 Ng7 =

56.Rg3+! Kf7

56...Kh7 57.Ke4 +-

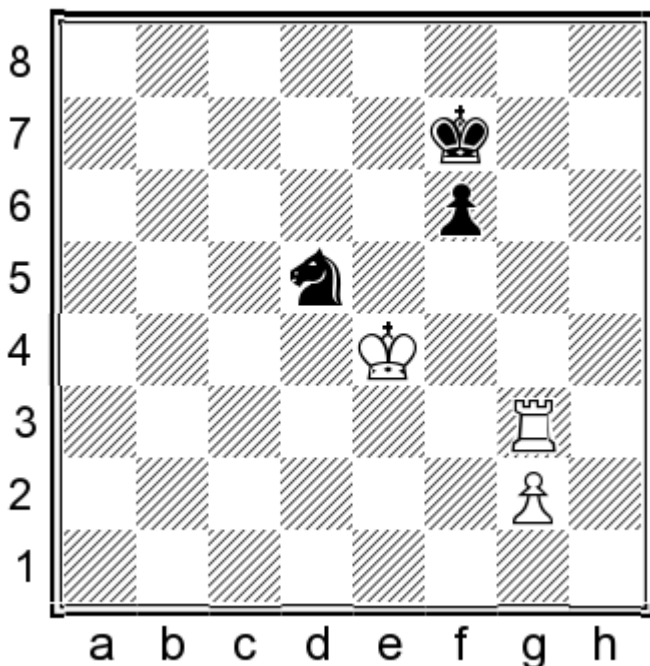
57.Ke4 +- Ng8 58.Kf5 Ne7+ 59.Kf4 Nd5+ 60.Kg4?

60.Kf5! +- - 60.Kg4

60...Kg6 61.Kf3+ Kf7!

61...Kh6? 62.Rg4! Ne7 63.Kf4 Nd5+ 64.Ke4 Ne7 65.Rg3 Kh7 66.Rb3 Kg6
67.Rb5 +- -

62.Ke4



62...Ne7?

62...Nc7! 63.Rd3 Ne8 64.Kf5 Ng7+ 65.Kg4 Ne6 =

63.Kf4! Nd5+ 64.Kf5! Ne7+ 65.Ke4 Ng8

65...Ke6 66.Ra3 Kf7 67.Ra7 Ke6 68.Kf4 Nd5+ 69.Kg4 Ne3+ 70.Kf3 Nf5
71.Kf4 +- -

66.Rh3 Kg6 67.Ra3 Kf7 68.Kf4 Nh6 69.Rg3 Ng8 70.Kg4 Ne7

70...Kg6 71.Kh4+ Kf7 72.Kh5 Ne7 73.Rb3 Nf5 74.g4 Nd6 75.Rb4 Nc8
76.Rb7+ Ne7 77.Kh6 +- -

71.Kh5 Nd5 72.Rf3 Ke6 73.g4 Ke5 74.Kg6

74.Kg6 Nf4+ (74...Ke6 75.Rf1 +- -) 75.Kf7 f5 76.g5 +- -

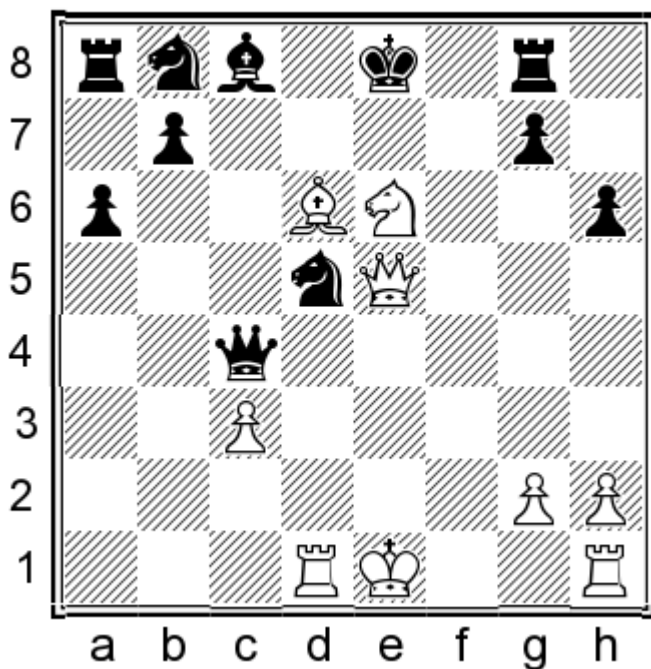
1-0

91. !N B97

Xu, Xiangyu (2573) - Lu, Shanglei (2615)
China (ch) 148/91, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Qd2
Qxb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.e5 h6 11.Bh4 dxe5 12.fxe5 Nfd7 13.Ne4 Qxa2 14.Rd1
Qd5 15.Qe3 Qxe5 16.c3 Bc5 17.Bg3 Qd5 18.Bc4 Qxc4 19.Bd6 Nf6 20.Nxc5

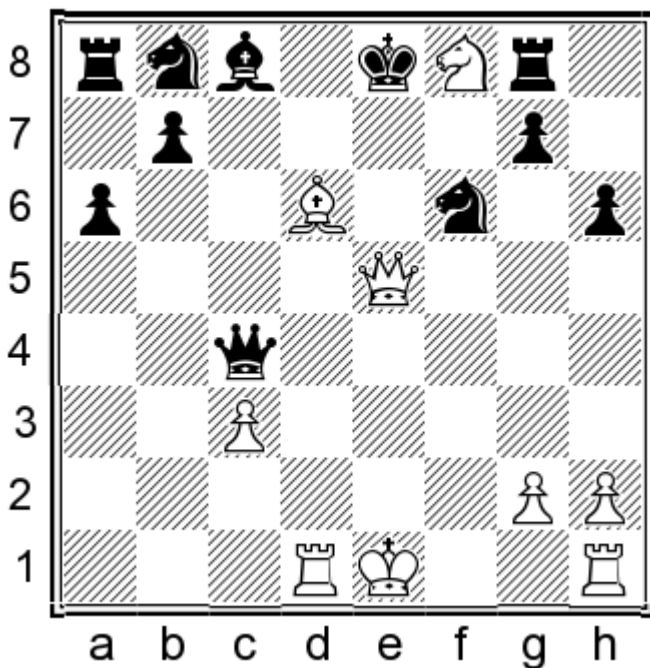
Nd5 21.Qe5 Rg8 22.Ndxe6! fxe6 23.Nxe6



23...Nf6!N

23...Qxc3+ - 148/90

24.Nf8+



24.Ng5+ Be6 25.Qxe6+ Qxe6+ 26.Nxe6 - 24. Nf8

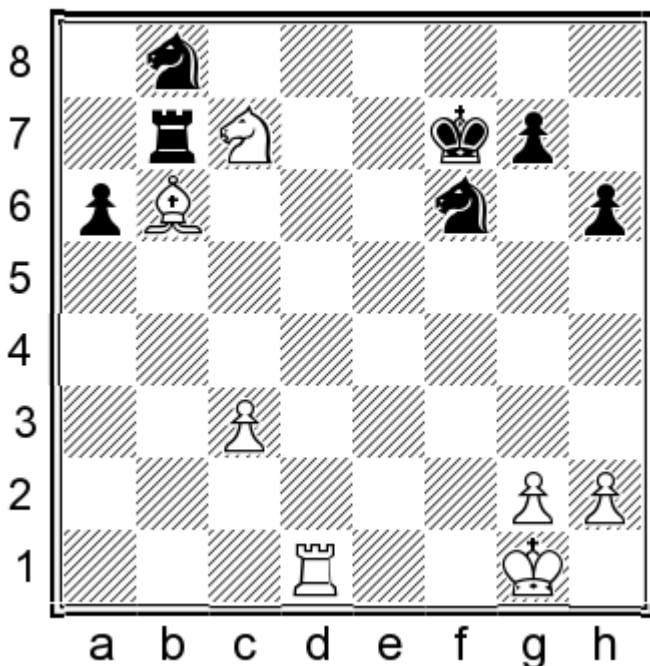
24...Be6! 25.Qxe6+

25.Nxe6? Kf7- +

25...Qxe6+ 26.Nxe6 Kf7™ 27.Nc7 Ra7 28.O-O Rd8 29.Bc5

29.c4 b6 30.c5 bxc5 31.Bxc5 Rxd1 32.Bxa7 Rxf1+ 33.Kxf1 Nc6 34.Be3 a5μ

29...Rxd1 30.Rxd1 b6 31.Bxb6 Rb7



32.Na8! Nc6

32...Ne4 33.Rf1+ Kg8 34.c4 Nd7 35.Re1 Nec5 36.Bxc5 Nxc5 37.Ra1 Ra7
38.Nb6 a5 39.Na4 Nxa4 40.Rxa4 Kf7 =

33.Be3 Re7

33...Rb3 34.Ra1 Rxc3 35.Rxa6 Nd5 36.Bb6 =

34.Bc5 Rb7 = 35.Be3 Re7 36.Bc5 Rb7 1/2-1/2

92. ** B97

Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789) - Giri, Anish (2776)
chess24.com (Int.-m1/4-rapid) 148/92, 2021

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Qd2
Qxb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.f5 Nc6 11.fxe6 Bxe6**

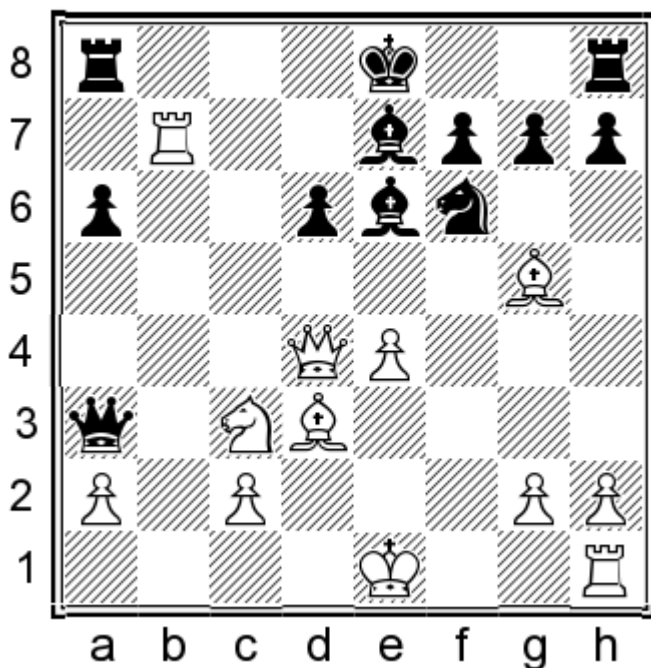
11...fxe6 - 147/85

12.Rxb7

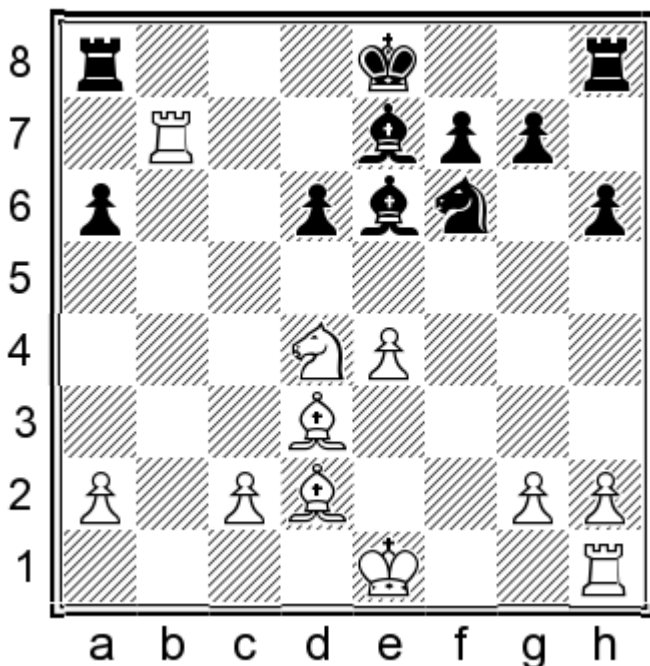
12.Nxe6 fxe6 13.Rxb7 Be7N (13...Rb8) 14.Rb3 Qc5 15.Be3 Qe5 16.Bf4 Qc5
17.Be3 Qe5 18.Bf4 Qc5 19.Be3 1/2 (19) Chigaev, M (2619)-Vitiugov, N
(2720) Russia (ch) 148/(92) 2020

12...Nxd4 13.Qxd4 Be7 14.Bc4 - 148/92

14.Bd3N



14...h6 (14...Nd7!? 15.Bxe7 (15.Qxg7? Bxg5 16.Qxh8+ Ke7 17.Qxa8 Qxc3+
18.Kf1 Qa1+ 19.Kf2 Qxh1-+; 15.Bd2 Bh4+ 16.g3 Bf6 17.Qb4 Qxb4
18.Rxb4 O-O³) 15...Kxe7 16.Nd5+ (16.Qxg7?! Rhg8 17.Qd4 Rxc2μ)
16...Bxd5 17.Qxd5 Rhb8 18.O-O Qc5+ 19.Qxc5 dxc5 20.Rfb1²) 15.Bd2 Qc5
16.Ne2 (16.Be3 Qc8 (16...Qxd4 17.Bxd4 Bd8 18.O-O O-O 19.a4 Nd7∞)
17.Rb1 O-O 18.O-O Qc5 19.Rb7 Rfe8=) 16...Qxd4 17.Nxd4

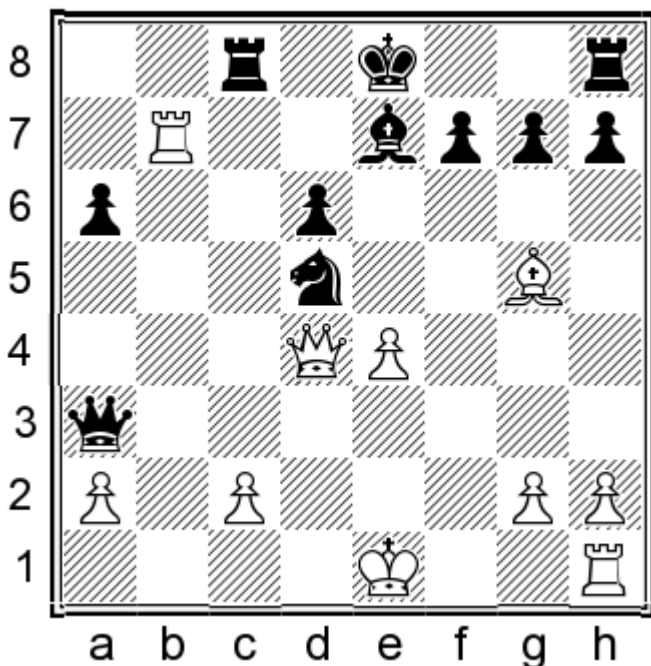


17...Bc8! 18.Rb1 O-O 19.Nf5 Bxf5 20.exf5 d5 21.Be3 Ng4 22.Bd4 Rfe8
 23.O-O Bf6 24.Bxf6 Nxf6 25.Rb4 a5 26.Rd4 Reb8 27.a3 Kf8 28.Re1 Re8
 29.Rb1 Rab8 30.Rxb8 Rxb8 31.Ra4 Ra8 32.c4 Ke7 (32...dxc4 33.Rxc4 Rd8
 34.Be2 Rd5 35.Rc8+ Ke7 36.Rc7+ Rd7 37.Rc5 Rd5 =) 33.cxd5 Kd6 34.Kf2
 Kxd5 35.Bc4+ Ke5 36.Bxf7 Kxf5 = Nepomniachtchi,I (2789)-Giri,A (2776)
 chess24.com (Int.-m1/2-rapid) 148/(92) 2021

14...Rc8 15.Nd5

15.Bb3 Bxb3 (15...Qc5? 16.Qxc5 Rxc5 17.Nd5 Nxd5 18.exd5 Bxg5 19.dxe6
 fxe6 20.O-O ±) 16.cxb3 (16.Rxb3 Qa5 17.Bd2 Qc5 18.Qxc5 Rxc5 19.Ke2 O-
 O =) 16...h6 17.Be3 Bd8 18.O-O O-O =

15...Bxd5 16.Bxd5 Nxd5



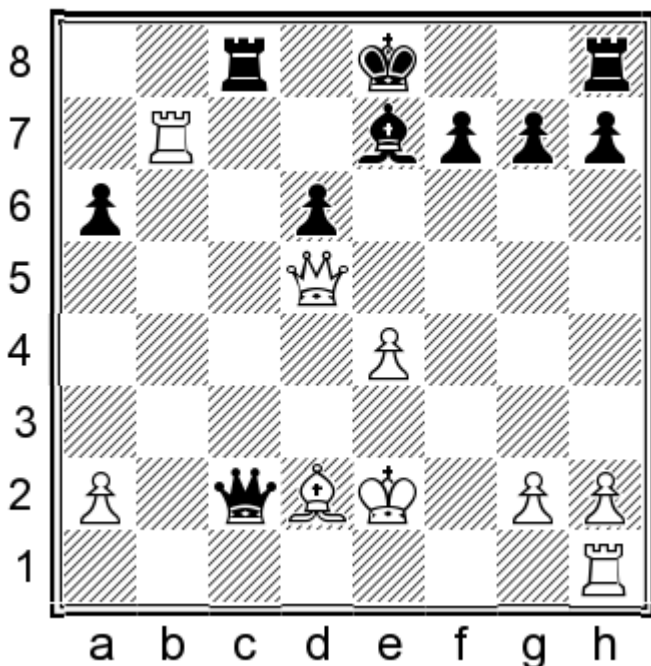
17.Qxd5N

17.Qxg7 Rf8 18.exd5 Bxg5 19.Qxg5 Qc3+ 20.Kf2 Qxc2+ 21.Kg3 Qe4
 22.Rf1 h6 23.Qg7 Rc3+ 24.Rf3 Rxf3+ 25.gxf3 Qg6+! (25...Qe1+?! 26.Kh3
 Qf1+ 27.Kh4 Qf2+ 28.Qg3²) 26.Qxg6 fxg6 27.Rg7 Rf6 28.a4 g5 29.Ra7 Rf5
 30.Rxa6 Rxd5 31.Ra8+ Kd7 32.Rh8 Ra5 33.Rxh6 d5 34.Rh5 d4 35.Kf2 Rxa4
 36.Rxg5 Ra2+ 37.Kg3 Kd6 =

17...Qc3+ 18.Ke2

18.Bd2 Qa1+ 19.Ke2 Qxh1 20.Rxe7+ Kxe7 21.Qb7+ Ke6 (21...Kf6 22.e5+!
 Ke6 23.Qb3+ d5 24.Qb6+ Kxe5 25.Qe3+ Kf6 26.Qd4+ =) 22.Qd5+ Ke7
 23.Qb7+ Ke6 =

18...Qxc2+ 19.Bd2



19...Rc5! 20.Rc1 Qxc1 21.Bxc1 Rxd5 22.exd5 h5! 23.g3

23.Be3 h4 24.Rb8+ Bd8 25.Bb6 Kd7 26.Kd3 Re8 27.Bd4 Re1 28.Rb7+ Ke8
29.Bxg7 Rd1+ 30.Ke4 Re1+ 31.Kf5 Rf1+ =

23...h4 24.g4 f5! = 25.Kf3

25.gxf5? Rh5μ

**25...fxg4+ 26.Kxg4 Rf8 27.Bf4 g6 28.Rb8+ Kf7 29.Rb6 Rc8 30.Rxa6 Rc4
31.Kf3 g5 32.Bxd6 Bxd6 33.Rxd6 g4+ 34.Ke3 Rc2 35.Kf4 Rxa2 36.Kxg4
Rxb2 37.Rh6 Ke7 38.Rxb4 Rxb4+ 39.Kxb4 Kd6 40.Kh3 Kxd5 1/2-1/2**

C00-C24

93. C02

Sargsyan, Shant (2598) - Martic, Ivan (2318)

Beograd 148/93, 2021

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bd7 6.Be2 Nge7 7.Na3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Ng6?!

8...Nf5 9.Nc2 Be7 10.O-O O-O (10...h5 - 78/282; 10...g5 - 84/ (219)) 11.Ne3 Nh4 12.Nxh4 Bxh4 ∞

9.h4 Bb4+ 10.Kf1 Bxa3 11.bxa3 Nge7

11...h6 - 95/191

12.h5N

12.Bd3 Nf5 13.Rb1 b6 14.Rh3 h6 15.Bd2 Rc8 16.Kg1 O-O 17.g4 Nfxd4 18.Nxd4 Nxd4 =

12...h6 13.Rb1 Na5 14.g4?

14.Rh3 Qc7 15.Bd3 Nf5 16.Kg1 $\pm$

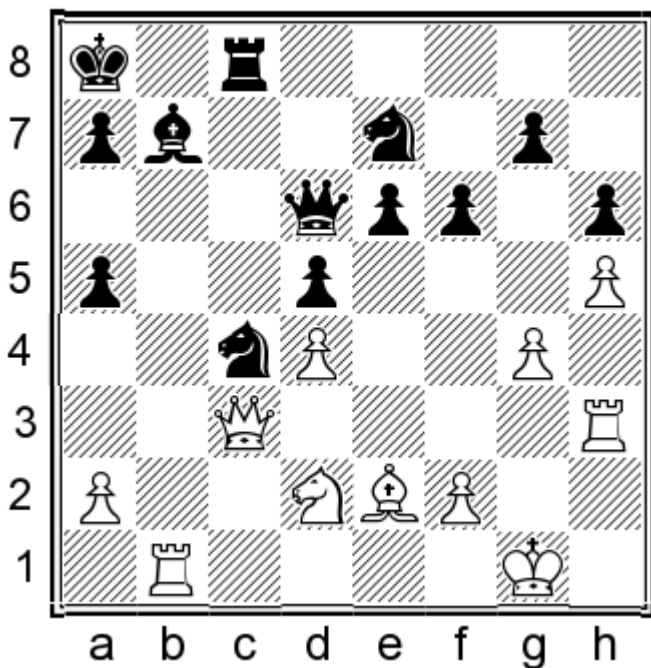
14...Qc7 15.a4 Nc4 16.Qb3 Bc6 17.Ba3 O-O-O?

17...Qd7 18.Bd1 Nc8 19.Bb4 a5 20.Bc5 Ra6 =

18.Rh3 f6 19.Kg1 Kb8 20.Bc5 Ka8 21.Qc3 b6 22.Bb4 Bb7 23.a5 bxa5 24.Bd6 Rxd6?!

24...Qd7 25.Bc5 Nc6 26.exf6 gxf6 27.Nh4 Rhg8 =

25.exd6 Qxd6 26.Nd2 Rc8



27.Rb5?

27.Nxc4! dxc4 28.Qxa5 Qd5 29.Qxd5 exd5 (29...Nxd5 30.Ra3 c3 31.Rc1 +-)
30.Rb5 ±

27...Qf4 28.Nxc4 dxc4 29.Rc5

29.Rxb7!? Kxb7 30.Re3 Nd5 31.Qb2+ Nb6 32.Rxe6 c3 33.Qb3 ∞

29...Rb8??

29...Rxc5 30.dxc5 Qe4 31.Bf3 (31.Bf1 Bd5 32.g5 hgx5 33.h6 gxh6 34.Qxf6 Nc6 =) 31...Qb1+ 32.Kh2 Bxf3 33.Rxf3 Qe4 34.Kg3 Nd5 35.Qxa5 Qe5+ 36.Kg2 Nf4+ 37.Kg1 Qa1+ 38.Kh2 Ne2 39.Qd8+ Kb7 40.Qd7+ Kb8 41.Qd6+ Ka8 42.Qf8+ Kb7 43.c6+ Kxc6 44.Qc8+ Kd6 =

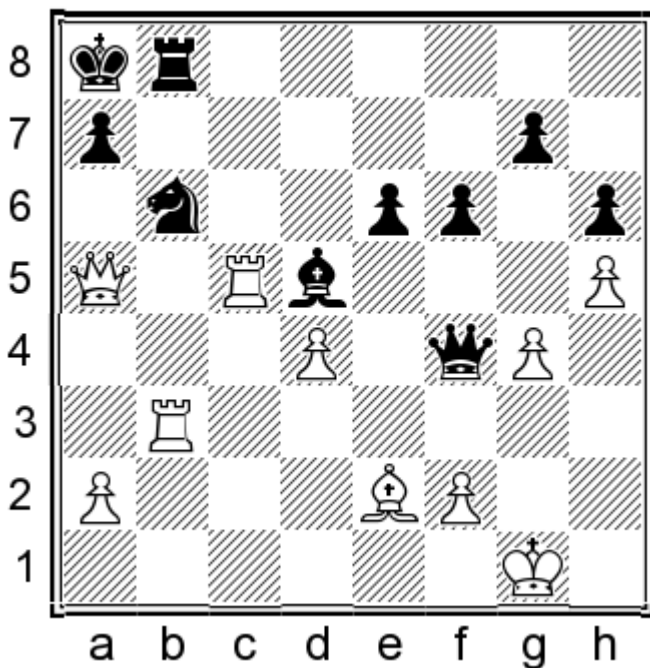
30.Rxc4 Be4 31.Rg3 Nd5 32.Qxa5??

32.Qc1 Rb1 33.Rc8+ Kb7 34.Rb3+ +-

32...Qd6??

32...Rb1+ 33.Bf1 Nb6™ 34.Rcc3 Bd3! 35.Rcxd3 Qc1 36.Rd1 Qxd1 37.Qa6 Kb8 38.Ra3 Kc7 =

33.Rb3 Nb6 34.Rc1 Qf4 35.Rc5 Bd5?



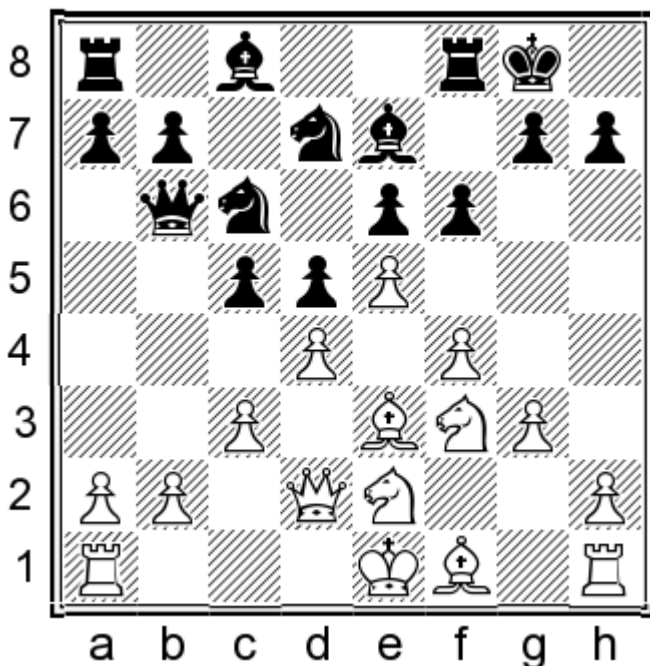
36.Qxa7+! Kxa7 37.Ra3+ Kb7 38.Ba6+ Ka7 39.Bc8+ Na4 40.Rxa4+ Kb6
41.Rb4+ 1-0

94. C11

Wang, Hao (2762) - Grischuk, Alexander (2777)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/94, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 f6
9.Be3 O-O 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2



11.Qb3!?

11...cxd4!!

11...fxe5 - 111/125

12.Nfxd4N

12.cxd4?! fxe5 13.dxe5 Bc5μ; 12.Nexd4 fxe5 13.Nxe6 d4 14.Bf2 Re8
15.Be2 ∞

12...Nc5

12...Bc5! 13.exf6 (13.b4 Nxb4! 14.cxb4 Bxb4 15.Nc3 fxe5 16.fxe5 (16.Nc2
d4 17.Nxb4 dxe3 18.Qb2 exf4 19.gxf4 e5μ) 16...Nxe5 17.Be2 Qa5 18.Rc1
Bd7μ) 13...Nxf6 14.Bg2 e5 15.fxe5 Ne4! 16.Bxe4 dxe4³

13.exf6 Bxf6 14.Nb3 Ne4 15.Qd3

15.Bxb6 Nxd2 16.Bc5 Nxf1 (16...Nxb3 17.axb3 Re8 18.Bg2²) 17.Bxf8 Ne3
18.Kf2 Ng4+ 19.Kf3 e5 20.h3 e4+ 21.Kg2 Kxf8 (21...Ne3+ 22.Kf2 Nc4
23.Bc5 Nxb2©) 22.hxg4 Bxg4 23.Rxh7 Kg8 24.Rah1 Bf3+ 25.Kf2 Bxh1
26.Rxh1 ∞

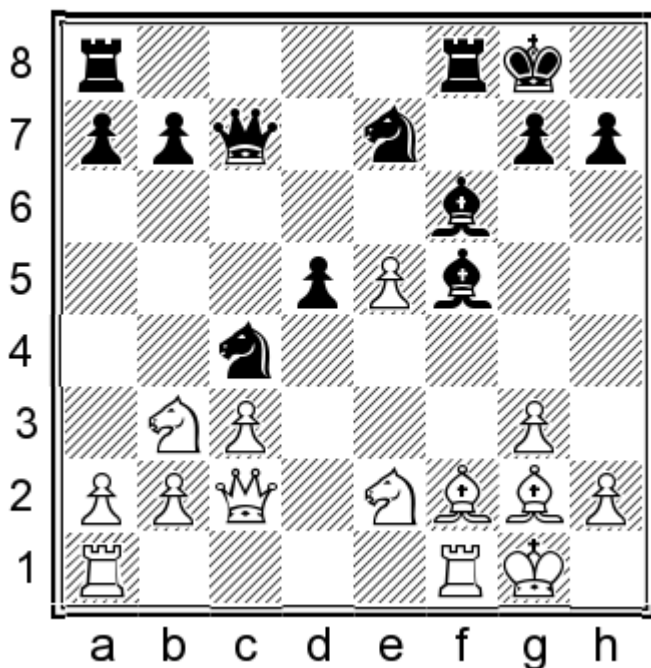
15...Qc7 16.Bg2 Nd6

16...a5!? 17.O-O b6 18.Rfe1 Ba6 19.Qd1 Rae8 ∞

17.Bf2 Nc4 18.Qc2 Ne7 19.O-O e5?!

19...Nf5 20.Qc1 Nfd6 21.Nd2 (21.Bd4 Ne4 22.Bxf6 gxf6 ∞) 21...Nxd2
22.Qxd2 Ne4 23.Qe3 Bd7 ∞

20.fxe5 Bf5



21.exf6!?

21.Qd1! Bxe5 (21...Nxb2? 22.Qd2 Nc4 23.Bxd5+ +-) 22.Ned4 Bd7
(22...Nxb2 23.Qe2 Nc4 24.Nc5! ±) 23.Qc2 Rf6 (23...Rae8 24.Rae1²) 24.Rae1
Raf8 25.Nd2²

21...Bxc2 22.fxe7 Rfe8 23.Nf4 Nb6

23...Be4 24.Nxd5 Bxd5 25.Bxd5+ Kh8 26.Bxc4 Qxc4 27.Bc5 Kg8 28.Rae1 ∞

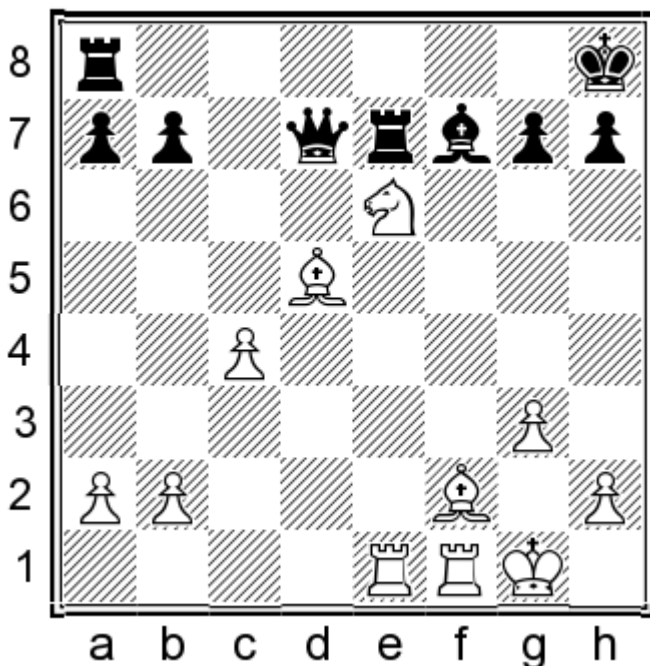
24.Nxd5?

24.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 25.Nd4 Be4 (25...Qxb2 26.Nxc2 Qxc2 27.Nxd5 Qa4
28.Rae1 ∞) 26.Nxd5 Bxd5 27.Bxd5+ Kh8 28.Rf7 Qc5 29.Bxb7 Rab8 30.Raf1
g6 31.b4! Qxc3 32.Rf8+ Kg7 33.R8f7+ Kh8 (33...Kh6 34.R1f4 Qa1+ 35.Kg2
Qxa2+ 36.Kg1 Qa1+ 37.Kg2 =) 34.Rf8+ =; 24.Rae1!? Bxb3 25.axb3 Rxe7
26.Bd4 ∞

24...Nxd5 25.Bxd5+ Kh8 26.Nd4 Qd7 27.c4 Bg6

27...Bd3 28.Rfd1 Bg6

28.Ne6 Rxe7 29.Rae1 Bf7?



29...Bf5! 30.Nc5 Qc7 31.Nxb7 Rxe1 32.Rxe1 Bg6 33.Nd6 Rf8μ

30.Nxg7! Bxd5

30...Kxg7 31.Bd4+ Kg8 32.Rxe7 Qxe7 33.Rxf7 Qxf7 34.Bxf7+ Kxf7
35.Kf2=; 30...Rxe1! 31.Bxe1 Kxg7 32.Rxf7+ Qxf7 33.Bxf7 Kxf7 34.Kf2 Rc8
35.b3 Rc6³

31.Rxe7 Qxe7 32.Nf5 Qf8

32...Qe4 33.Bd4+ Qxd4+ 34.Nxd4 Bxc4=

33.Bd4+ Kg8 34.cxd5 h5 35.d6 Kh7 36.Ne7 Qe8 37.Rf6 Rd8 38.Bc3

38.Be5 Rd7 39.Rf5 Rxe7 40.dxe7 Qxe7 41.Rxh5+ Kg6 42.g4 Qb4 43.h3
Qe1+=

38...Rxd6 39.Rxd6 Qxe7 40.Rd4 Kg6 41.a3 Qe3+ 1/2-1/2

95. * C11

Wei, Yi (2732) - Xu, Yinglun (2554)

China (ch) 148/95, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6
9.Qc1 f6 10.c3 Be7 11.h4

11.exf6 - 134/93

11...O-O 12.h5 Qa5?!N

12...h6 - 148/(95) 13.Rh3 Qa5 14.Kf2 (14.Rg3!?) 14...cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5
16.fxe5 Ndx5! 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Kg1 Ng4 19.Rg3 e5 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Nxe5
Bxh5 22.Nf4N (22.Qc3 Qxc3 23.Nxc3 ∞) 22...Rac8 23.Qe1 Qxe1 24.Rxe1 ∞
Aronian,L (2781)-Bluebaum,M (2670) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/ (95)
2021

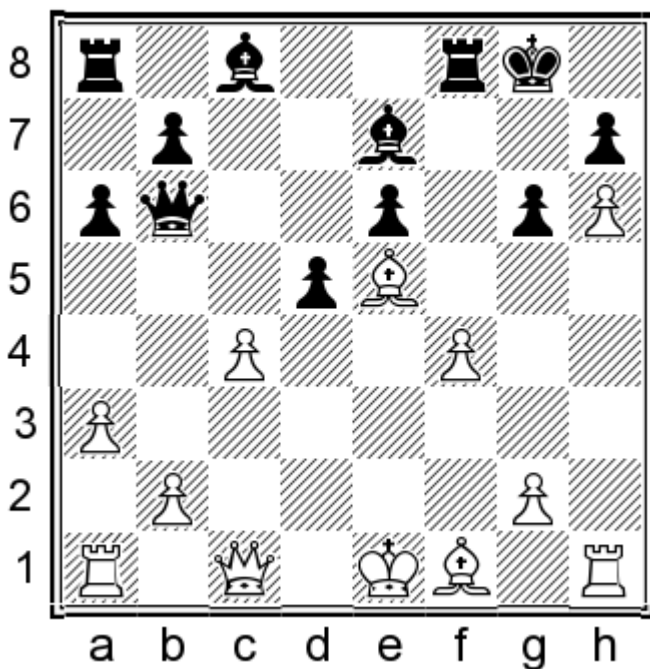
13.h6 g6 14.a3 cxd4 15.Nexd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 fxe5

16...Qc7 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.Qe3 ±

17.Nxe5 Nxe5

17...Bf6 18.Qe3 ±

18.Bxe5 Qb6 19.c4?!



19.Qd2 Bc5 (19...Bd6 20.Bxd6 Qxd6 21.Qd4 Rf7 22.g3 ±; 19...Bd7 20.O-O-O
O Rac8 21.Bd3 ±) 20.Rh3 Bd7 (20...Bd6 21.Bxd6 Qxd6 22.Rh4 ±) 21.O-O-O
Ba4 22.Re1 Bf2 23.Re2 Bc5 24.Rf3 ±

19...Bc5! 20.Bd3 Bd4 21.c5 Bxc5 22.Bxg6 Bd4! 23.Bd3 Bxe5

23...Bd7!? 24.Rf1 Bb5 (24...Bxe5 25.fxe5 Rxf1+ 26.Bxf1 Be8 27.Qg5+ Bg6
28.Rc1 Rf8 29.Bd3 Qg1+ 30.Kd2 Qf2+ 31.Kd1 Qxb2 32.Rc7 Qa1+ 33.Kd2
Qb2+=) 25.Bxb5 axb5 26.Ke2 Rac8 27.Qd2 ∞

24.fxe5 Qf2+ 25.Kd1 Qxg2

25...Qg3 26.Rh3! Qxe5 27.Re3 Qh5+ (27...Qg5?! 28.Rf3 Qxc1+ 29.Rxc1 Rxf3 30.gxf3 ±) 28.Kc2 e5 29.Rg3+ Kh8 30.Qe3 d4 31.Rh1! dxe3 32.Rxh5²

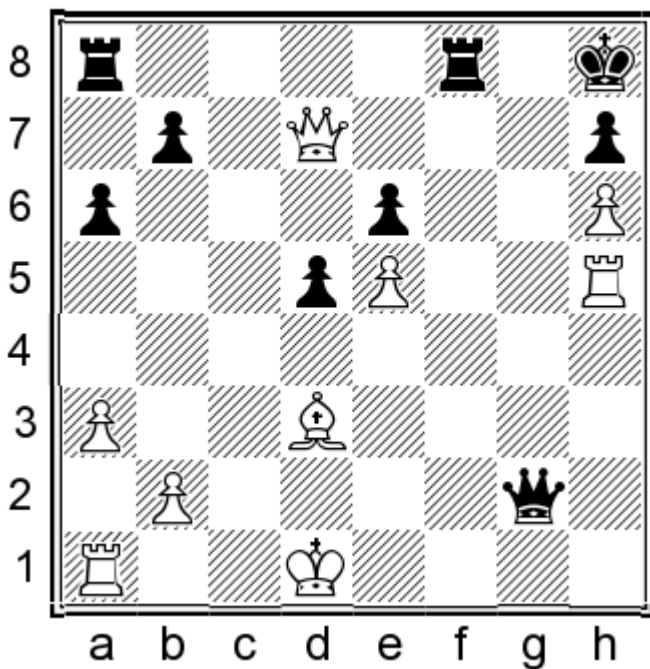
26.Rh5 Kh8

26...Qg4+ 27.Kc2 (27.Be2?? Rf1+- +) 27...Qxh5 28.Qg1+ Kf7 29.Rf1+ Ke8 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8 31.Qg7+ Ke8 32.Bg6+ hxg6 33.h7 Qe2+ =

27.Qc7?

27.Qg5 Rf1+ (27...Qxg5?! 28.Rxg5 Rf7 29.Kd2 Bd7 30.Rag1 ±) 28.Bxf1 Qxf1+ 29.Kd2 Qf2+ 30.Kc3 Qf3+ =

27...Bd7 28.Qxd7



28...Rf1+?

28...Qf3+! 29.Kd2 (29.Be2 Qb3+ 30.Kc1 (30.Kd2 Qxb2+ 31.Ke3 Rg8- +) 30...Rg8! 31.Rh1 Rac8+ 32.Kb1 Rc2- +) 29...Rf7 30.Qxe6 Qxh5 31.Kc3 d4+ 32.Kb3 Rf3 33.Ka2 Re8- +

29.Bxf1 Qxf1+ 30.Kd2 Qf4+ 1/2-1/2

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 O-O 9.dxc5 Qa5 10.a3 Bxc5 11.Bxc5

11.O-O-O - 137/91

11...Nxc5 12.O-O-O Bd7 13.Qe3 Rac8N

13...Qb6 14.Nd4 (14.Kb1?! Na4!³) 14...Nxd4 15.Qxd4 Rac8²

14.Kb1 Qb6 15.h4

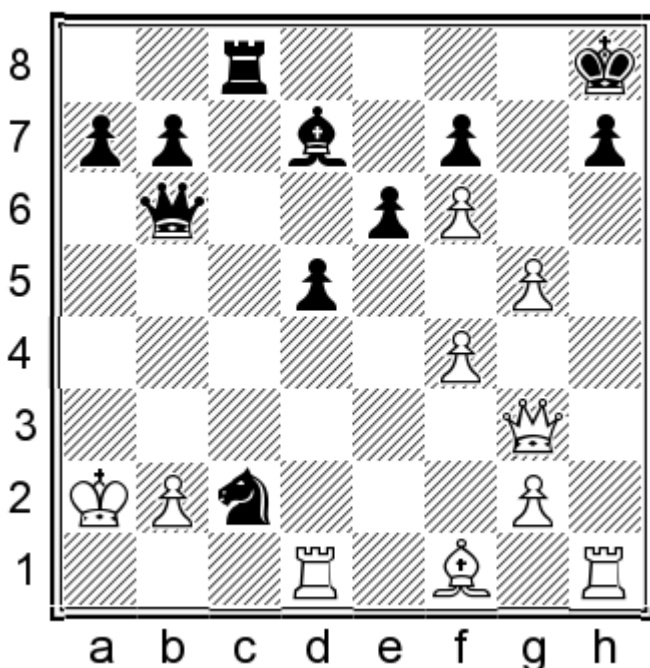
15.Nd4²

15...Ne4 16.Qe1

16.Qxb6 Nxc3+ 17.bxc3 axb6 ∞

16...Nd4! 17.Nxd5

17.Rxd4 Nxc3+ 18.Ka1 Na4 19.Qb1 a5 ∞ (19...f6 ∞) 17.Nxe4 Nxc2 18.Nf6+ gxf6 19.Qg3+ Kh8 20.exf6 Nxa3+ 21.Ka2 Rg8 22.Ng5 Rxc5 23.hxc5 (23.Qxc5 Rg8 24.Bd3! (24.Qe5 Ba4- + ; 24.Qh5 Rxc2! 25.Bxc2 Nc4 26.Qe2 Qa6+ 27.Kb1 Na3+- +) 24...Nc4 25.Bxc4 Rxc5 26.hxc5 Ba4 27.b3 dxc4 28.bxa4 Kg8 29.Rh3 h5 ∞) 23...Nc2



24.Rxh7+! Kg8! (24...Kxh7 25.Kb1!! + -) 25.Rg7+ Kf8 26.Rh7 Kg8 =

17...exd5 18.Rxd4?

18.Nxd4 Nc3+ 19.Ka1 Nxd1 20.Qxd1 f6 21.Bd3 ∞

18...Rxc2! 19.Kxc2 Rc8+ 20.Bc4

20.Kb1 Nc3+ 21.Ka1 Qb3 22.bxc3 Qxa3+ 23.Kb1 Bf5+ 24.Bd3 Qb3+ 25.Ka1 Bxd3- +

20...Bf5 21.Qb4 Qg6 22.Rg1?

22.Kb3 Qxg2 23.Bxd5 Nc5+ 24.Ka2 Qxh1 25.Qe1 Qxe1 26.Nxe1 Ne6μ;
22.Kb1 Qxg2 23.Rc1 dxc4 24.Ne1 Qf2 25.Nc2 b5!μ

22...Ng5+- + 23.Kb3 Nxf3 24.Bxd5

24.Rxd5 Nxc1 25.Qxb7 Rf8! 26.Rd2 Be6

24...a5 25.h5

25.Qxb7 Nxd4+ 26.Ka2 Rf8

**25...Bc2+ 26.Ka2 axb4 27.hxg6 b3+ 28.Ka1 Nxd4 29.gxf7+ Kf8 30.Rc1 b5
31.e6 Rd8 32.Re1 Ke7 33.g4 Rxd5 0-1**

97. C19

Lagarde, Maxime (2638) - Markoja, Boris (2442)
tornelo.com (Internet) 148/97, 2021

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7
8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 dxc3 12.h4 Bd7 13.h5 O-O-O
14.Qd3 d4 15.Rb1 Nf5?!**

15...Kb8

16.Rg1 f6

16...Nh6 - 67/383

17.g4 Nh6

17...fxe5 18.gxf5 exf5 (18...Rxc1 19.Nxc1 exf5 20.fxe5 ±) 19.Rxc1 Rxc1
20.Rb5! Qd8 21.Qh3 e4 22.Rd5 Qf6 23.h6 Rh8 24.Nxd4 Rxh6 25.Qe3 Qh4+
26.Qf2 Nxd4 27.Rxd4 Qxf2+ 28.Kxf2 Rh2+ 29.Ke1 Rxc2 30.Be3 ±

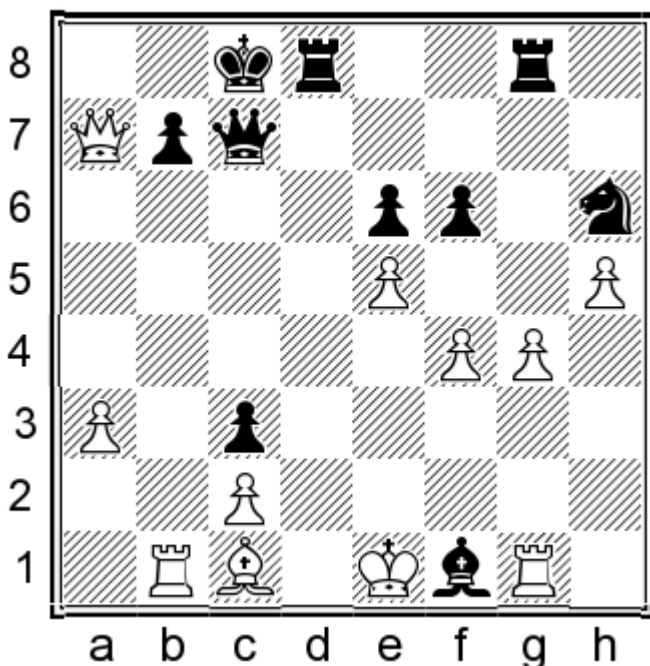
18.Nxd4

18.exf6! Rxc1 19.Rxc1 Nxc1 20.Nxd4 Nxd4 21.Qxd4 Bb5 22.Qg1 Bxf1
23.Qxc1 Bc4 24.Be3 Qc6 25.Kf2 Qa4 26.Rc1 +- -

18...Nxd4 19.Qxd4 Bb5N

19...Nxc1? 20.Qxa7 Bc6 21.Be2 f5 22.Rg3 +-; 19...Rxc1 20.Rxc1 Nxc1
21.exf6 (21.Qxa7 Bc6 22.Be2 Qh7! 23.Bxc1 Qe4+ 24.Be3 Qh1+ 25.Bg1
Qh4+ 26.Bf2 Qh1+=) 21...Bc6 22.Qxc3 Qd7 23.Be2 Qd5 24.Qh3 Nxf6
25.Rb4 ±

20.Qxa7 Bxf1



21.Rxf1?

21.Rg3! Bg2! (21...Ba6 22.Rb3 Kd7 23.Rgxc3 Qa5 24.Bd2 Ke8 (24...Qd5 25.Rd3 Bxd3 26.Rxd3 +-) 25.Rd3 Qc7 26.Rbc3 Qe7 27.exf6 Qxf6 28.g5 Qe7 29.Rxd8+ Qxd8 30.Be3 +-) 22.Rxg2 Qc6 23.Rg3 (23.Rg1 Qe4+ 24.Be3 Nxc4 25.Qa8+ Kc7 26.Qa5+ =) 23...Qh1+ 24.Qg1 Qh4 25.Ke2 Nf5 26.Rxc3+ Kb8 27.Qg2 Rd7 28.Qh3 Rxc4 29.Qxh4 Rxh4 30.exf6 Rh2+ 31.Ke1 ±

21...Nxc4?

21...Qc6! 22.Qa8+ (22.g5 Qe4+ 23.Be3 Nf5 24.Qc5+ Kb8 25.Qa7+ Kc8 =) 22...Kc7 23.Qa5+ Kb8 24.Be3 Nxc4 25.Ba7+ Kc8 26.Qc5 Qxc5 27.Bxc5 Rd5 28.Bg1 (28.Bb4 Ne3 29.exf6 Nxc2+ 30.Ke2 Rd2+ 31.Kf3 Rd3+ =) 28...fxe5 29.Rb3 Rg8 (29...e4 30.Rxc3+ Kd7 ∞) 30.Rxc3+ Kb8 ∞

22.Rb5

22.Rf3 +-

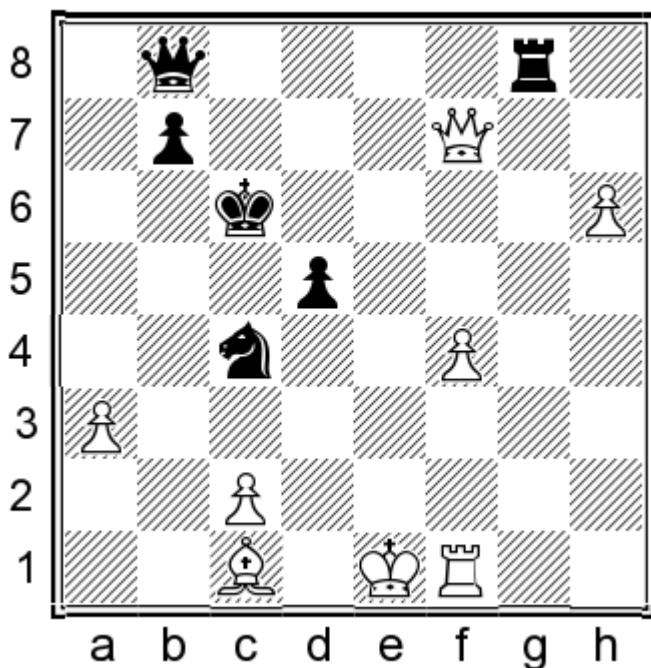
22...Rd5 23.Rxd5 exd5 24.Qa8+ Qb8 25.Qa5

25.Qxb8+ Kxb8 26.Ke2 fxe5 27.fxe5 Nxe5 28.Rf5 Ng4 29.Rxd5 +-

25...Nxe5 26.Qxc3+ Nc4 27.Qxf6 Kd7

27...Re8+ 28.Kf2 Qa7+ (28...Nd6 29.Qg6 Qc7 30.Kg2 Re2+ 31.Kh3 Rxc2
 32.Qg8+ Qd8 33.Qxd8+ Kxd8 34.Re1 +-) 29.Kg2 Ne3+ 30.Bxe3 Qxe3
 31.Qg6 +- -

28.Qf7+ Kc6 29.h6?



29.Kd1! Rg2 (29...Rg3 30.Qe6+ Nd6 31.Bb2 +-) 30.Qe6+ Nd6 31.Bb2 +- -

29...Qd8?

29...Nd6! 30.Qh5 (30.Qf6 Qe8+ 31.Qe5 Qg6,,) 30...Rg2 31.Bb2 (31.h7?! Qh8
 32.Qh3 Rxc2,,; 31.Qf3 Rxc2 32.Kd1 Rc4 33.Bb2 Qa7,,) 31...Qa7 32.Qf3 Rh2
 33.Kd1 Nc4 34.Kc1 Ne3 35.Rf2 (35.h7 Rxc2+ 36.Kb1 Rxb2+ 37.Kxb2
 Qd4+=) 35...Nc4!,,

**30.Kd1! +- - Rg2 31.Qe6+ Kb5 32.Qh3 Rg8 33.h7 Rh8 34.Rh1 Qf6 35.Qd3
 Kc6 36.Rg1 Qa1 37.Ke2 Re8+ 38.Kf2 Re6 39.Rg5 Rd6 40.Rxd5 Rxd5
 41.Qxc4+ Kd6 42.Qb4+ 1-0**

C25-C49

98. C27

Vitiugov, Nikita (2715) - Motylev, Alexander (2641)

Russia 148/98, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nxe4 4.Qh5 Nd6 5.Bb3 Be7 6.Qxe5

6.Nf3 - 8/192

6...O-O 7.Nf3 c6

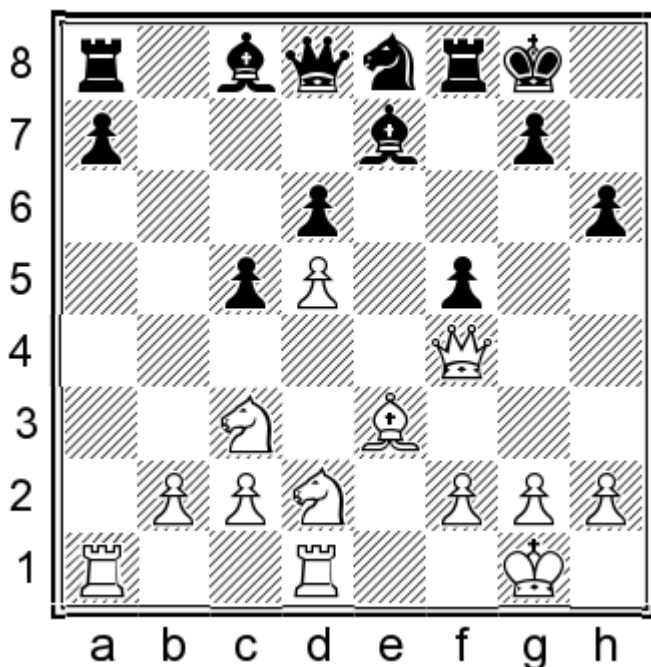
7...Bf6 8.Qf4 Re8+ 9.Kf1²

8.d4 Ne8 9.d5! d6 10.Qf4 Nd7 11.O-ON²

11.Be3

11...Nc5 12.Be3 Nxb3 13.axb3 c5 14.b4 h6 15.Rfd1 b6 16.bxc5 bxc5

17.Nd2 f5



18.Qc4?!

18.Nc4! Bg5 (18...g5 19.Qf3 f4 20.Bd2 Bf5 21.Re1 ±; 18...a5 19.Ra3f)

19.Qf3 Bxe3 20.Qxe3f

18...Kh8

18...Bf6!? 19.Nb3 Bxc3 20.Qxc3 f4 21.Bd2 f3,,

19.Nb3 a5 20.Bd2 Bd7 21.Ra3 Bf6 22.Rda1 Bxc3 23.Bxc3 a4 24.Nd2 Nc7?

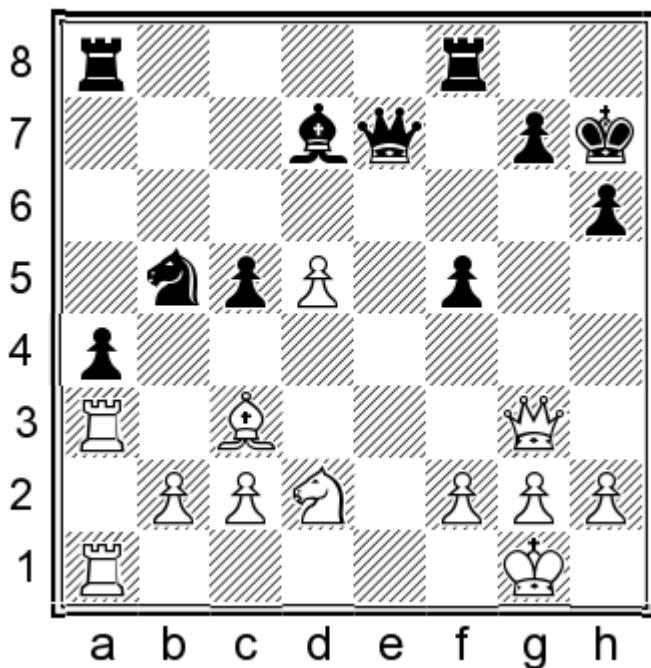
24...f4 25.b3 Qg5 26.Nf3 Qh5 27.bxa4²

25.Qf4! Kh7

25...Qe7 26.Qxh6+ Kg8 27.Bxg7 Qxg7 28.Rg3 +-

26.Qxd6 Nb5 27.Qg3! Rf7

27...Qe7



28.f4! Nxa3 29.bxa3 Rf7 (29...Rae8 30.Nc4 ±) 30.Rd1 Bb5 31.Be5f

28.R3a2 Nc7

28...Qe7 29.Qd3 Re8 30.Nf3 ±

**29.d6 Nb5 30.Be5 Nd4 31.Bxd4 cxd4 32.Qe5 Rc8 33.b3 Qf6 34.Qxf6 Rxf6
35.bxa4 Rxd6 36.Nf3**

36.a5 Be6 37.Rb2 Ra6 38.Kf1 ±

36...Bc6 37.a5

37.Ne1 Bd5 38.Rb2 Bc4 39.h3 ±

37...Bxf3 38.gxf3 Ra6 39.Kf1 Rc3 40.Ke2 f4?!)

40...g5 41.Rb2 (41.Rd1 Rc5 42.Rxd4 Rcx5 43.Rxa5 Rxa5) 41...Kg7
(41...Rc5 42.Kd3 Rax5 43.Rxa5 Rxa5 44.Kxd4 +-) 42.Kd2! Rc5 (42...Rxf3
43.Rb7+ Kg8 (43...Kf6 44.Rb6+ Rxb6 45.axb6 Rxf2+ 46.Kd3 Rf3+
47.Kxd4 +-) 44.Rb6 Rxf2+ 45.Kd3 Ra8 46.a6 +-) 43.Kd3 Rcx5 44.Rxa5
Rxa5 45.Kxd4 Kf6 46.c4 ±

41.Rd1 Rc4 42.Kd3 Rc5 43.Rda1 Rd5

43...Rc3+ 44.Kxd4 Rxf3 45.c4 +-

**44.Ke4 Rd8 45.Ra4 Re6+ 46.Kd3 Red6 47.Rc4 Rd5 48.a6 R5d7 49.Raa4
1-0**

99. C42

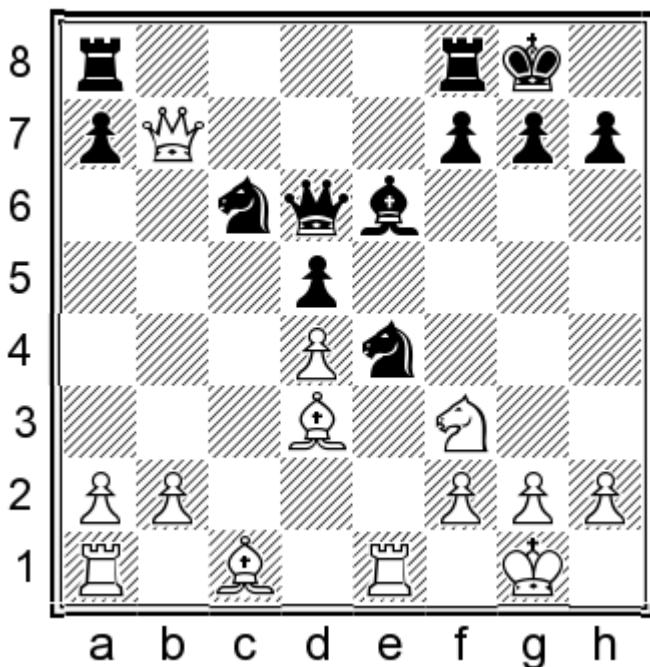
Dvoirys, Semen I (2483) - Solomon, Asif (2356)

Israel (ch) 148/99, 2021

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.O-O O-O
8.c4 c6 9.Re1 Bf5 10.Qb3 Qd7 11.cxd5**

11.Nc3 Nxc3 12.Bxf5 Qxf5 13.Qxb7 Qd7 14.Qxd7 Nxd7 15.c5!? Bxh2+!
16.Nxh2 Ne4 17.Bf4² - 99/204

11...cxd5 12.Nc3 Be6 13.Nb5 Nc6 14.Nxd6 Qxd6 15.Qxb7



15...Nxf2!

15...Nb4?! 16.Bf4! Qxf4 17.Qxb4 Rfb8 18.Qa3 Nd2 19.Nxd2 Qxd2 20.Rab1 Qf4 21.b4! Qxd4 22.Red1 Qf6 23.b5 ±

16.Kxf2 Nb4! 17.Bb5?N

17.Bb1 Rfb8 18.Rxe6 fxe6 19.Bxh7+! Kf8 (19...Kxh7?? 20.Ng5+ Kh8 21.Nf7++ -) 20.Bf4! Qxf4 21.Qd7 Rb6 (RR21...Re8 22.g3 Qf7 23.Qa4 g6 24.Qxb4+ Kg7 25.Kg2 (25.Bxg6 Qxg6 26.Ne5 Qc2+ 27.Kg1 Rab8 =) 25...Rf8 26.Ne5 Qf2+ 27.Kh1 Qe2 28.Qe7+ Kh6 29.Nf7+ Rxf7 30.Qxf7 Qe4+ 31.Kg1 Qxd4+ 32.Kg2 Qxb2+ 33.Kh3 Qg7 =) 22.Rf1!²

17...a6?!

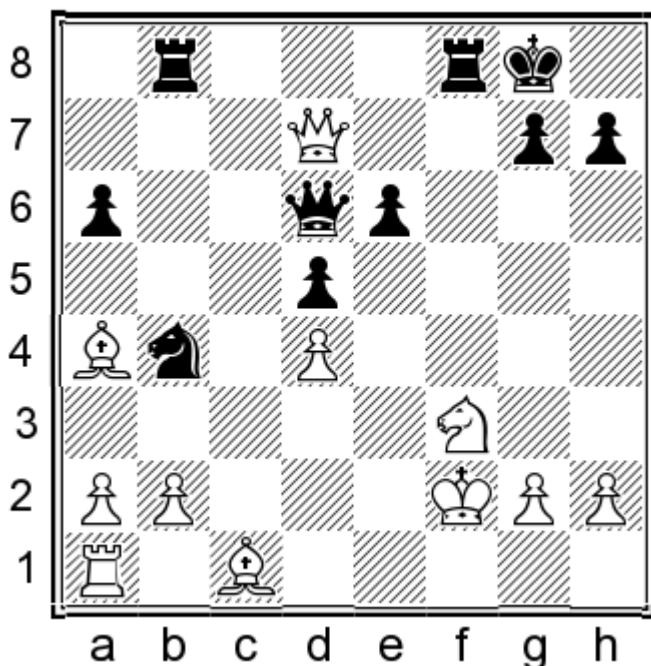
17...Rab8 18.Qxa7 Rxb5 19.Rf1 Rc8 20.Kg1 Nc2 21.Rb1 Rbb8! 22.Ng5 Ra8 23.Qb7 Nxd4 24.Nxe6 Qxe6μ

18.Ba4?

18.Bg5! Rfb8 19.Qe7 Qxe7 20.Bxe7 Rxb5 21.Bxb4 Rxb4 22.b3 a5³

18...Rab8 19.Rxe6 Qxe6?

19...fxe6! 20.Qd7



(20.Qa7 Qxh2) 20...Qb6! 21.Bd1 Qxd4+ 22.Kg3 Qb6- +

20.Qd7 Qxd7 21.Bxd7 Nc2! 22.Rb1 Na3 23.Ra1 Nc2 24.Rb1 Na3 25.Ra1

100. C45

Abdumalik, Zhansaya (2472) - Stefanova, Antoaneta (2470)
Gibraltar 148/100, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Qf6 5.Nb3 Qg6 6.f3 Bd6

6...Nf6 - 140/117

7.Nc3 Nge7

7...Bxh2? 8.Rxh2 Qg3+ 9.Ke2 Qxh2 10.Nd5 Kf8 (10...Qd6 11.Bf4 Ne5
12.Nd4 +-) 11.Bf4 Qh4 12.Qd2 +- -

8.f4!? Bb4™

8...a5 9.a3 a4 10.Nd4 Bc5 11.Be3 O-O 12.Nxc6 Qxc6 13.Qf3 ± ; 8...f5 9.e5
Bb4 10.Bd2 ±

9.f5N

9.Qf3 a5 10.a3 (10.Bd3 a4 11.Nd2 Nd4 12.Qh3 a3f) 10...Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 a4
12.Nd2 d5! 13.exd5 (13.Bd3 dxe4 14.Nxe4 Bg4 15.Qg3 O-O-O∞) 13...Bg4
14.Qd3 Bf5 15.Qf3 (15.Qe3 Na5∞) 15...Bg4 =

9...Qf6 10.Bd3 Bd6?

10...Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Qxc3+ 12.Bd2 Qf6 13.O-O (13.Qh5 h6 14.O-O d6
15.Be1∞) 13...d6 14.Qg4 h6 15.Qg3 Bd7∞

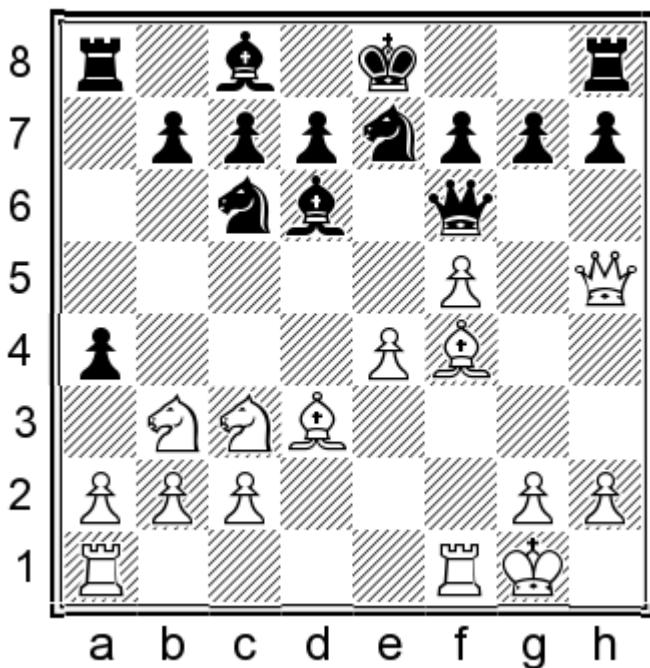
11.Qh5 a5??

11...Be5 12.O-O h6 13.Be3 b6 14.Bf2 ±

12.O-O +- a4

12...h6 13.e5 Qxe5 14.Bf4 Qxf4 15.Rxf4 Bxf4 16.Re1 +- ; 12...Be5 13.Bg5
Qd6 14.Nb5 Qb4 15.c3 Qa4 16.Nc5 +- -

13.Bg5 Qe5 14.Bf4 Qf6



14...Qxf4 15.Rxf4 Bxf4 16.Nc1

15.e5! Bxe5

15...Nxe5 16.Ne4

16.Ne4 Qxf5 17.Nd6+ cxd6 18.Bxf5 axb3 19.Bxe5 Nxe5 20.Be4 bxa2

21.Qd1 Ra6 22.Bd5 Ra5 23.Bxa2 d5 24.Qe1 N5c6 25.b4 Rb5 26.c3 O-O

27.Qe2 Rb6 28.b5 1-0

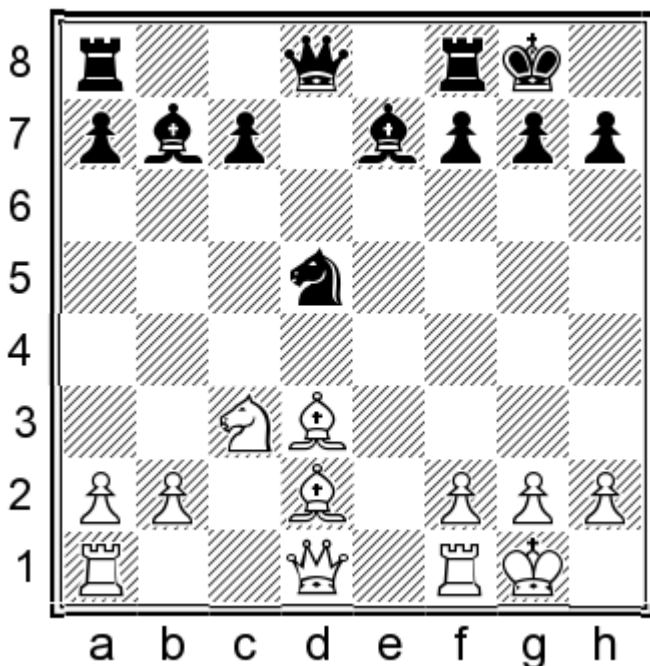
101. C45

Ibarra Jerez, Jose Carlos (2558) - Navara, David (2697)

tornelo.com (Int.-m/2) 148/101, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.Bd3 d5 7.exd5

cxd5 8.O-O Be7 9.c4 O-O 10.cxd5 Bb7 11.Nc3 Nxd5 12.Bd2



12...Bf6!?N

12...Rb8 - 144/89

13.Ne4 Bxb2 14.Rb1 Nf6 15.Nxf6+

15.Nc5 Bc6 (15...Bxg2 16.Rxb2 Bxf1 17.Bxf1 Qd5 18.Rc2²) 16.Rxb2 Qd5
17.Qf3 Qxc5 18.Qg3 ∞

15...Bxf6

15...Qxf6?? 16.Qc2 +-

16.Qc2

16.Bxh7+ Kxh7 17.Rxb7 c5 18.Rb3 (18.Qc2+ Kg8 19.Be3 Bd4 ∞) 18...Kg8
19.Rh3 g6 ∞

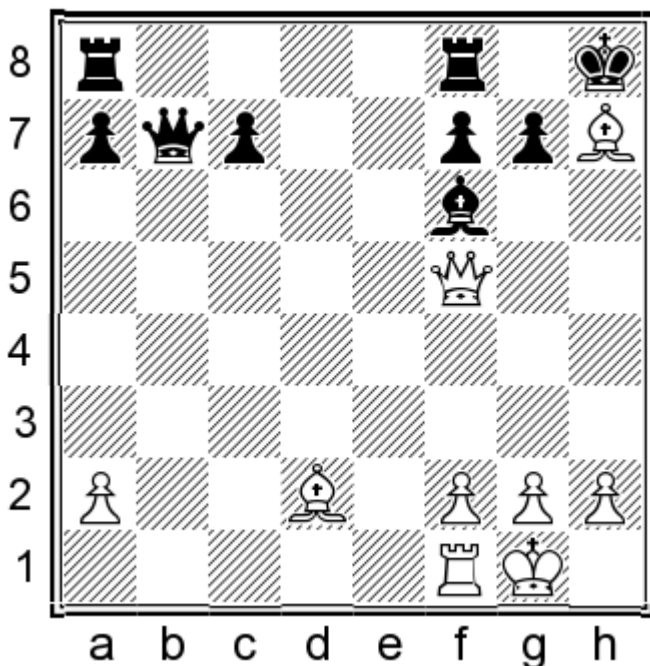
16...Qd5

16...Bd5 17.Bxh7+ Kh8 18.Bf5 g6 19.Rfd1 ∞

17.Bxh7+

17.Rxb7 Qxb7 18.Rb1 Qd5 (18...Qc8? 19.Bxh7+ Kh8 20.Bf5 Qd8 21.Rb3
Re8 (21...g6 22.Rh3+ Kg8 23.Be6 +-) 22.Rh3+ Kg8 23.Bb4 Be7 (23...c5
24.Bh7+ Kf8 25.Bxc5+ Be7 26.Bg6! +-) 24.Bd7! +-) 19.Bxh7+ Kh8 20.Be4
Qe6 21.Bxa8 Rxa8 22.Rb3 g6 ∞

17...Kh8 18.Rxb7 Qxb7 19.Qf5



19...Qb2! 20.Be3 g5 21.h4 Qe5

21...Bd4 22.Qg4 (22.hxg5 Bxe3 23.Qh3 Qg7 24.Be4+ Kg8 25.Bxa8 Bxg5 ∞)
 22...Bxe3 23.Qh5 Bxf2+ 24.Rxf2 Qg7 25.Be4+ Kg8 26.Rf5 Rae8 27.Rxg5
 Rxe4 =

22.hxg5 Qxf5 23.Bxf5 Bg7 24.Rc1 Rfd8 25.g3

25.Bf4 Kg8! 26.Rxc7 Rab8 27.Rxa7 Rb2 28.Be3 Bd4 29.Bxd4 Rxd4 =

25...Bd4

25...Be5 26.Kg2 Kg8 27.f4 Bd4 28.Bxd4 Rxd4 29.Rxc7 ∞

26.Bxd4+ Rxd4 27.Rxc7 Kg8 28.Bc2 Rg4 29.Bb3 Rf8 30.Rc5

30.f4 Rxg3+ 31.Kf2 Rg4 32.Kf3 Rg1 33.Rxa7 Kg7 =

30...Kg7 31.Kg2 Rd4 32.Rc7 a5 33.Ra7

33.f4 a4 34.Bc4 Rdd8 35.Ra7 Ra8 =

**33...a4 34.Bxa4 Rd5 35.Bb3 Rxg5 36.Rd7 Re5 37.Rd4 Ra8 38.Rd7 Rf8
 39.Rd4 Ra8 40.Rd7 Rf8 1/2-1/2**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Nd5 8.h4!?

8.c4 Ba6 9.h4!/? f6 10.Rh3 - 145/98

8...Qe6

8...a5 9.g3 (9.c4 Ba6 10.Nd2 Nb6 11.h5!/? - 145/97) 9...f6!/? - 140/118

8...f6 9.c4 Ba6 10.Rh3 fxe5 11.Bg5 Nf6 12.Re3 O-O-O 13.Ra3 Bb7 ∞ - 137/105

9.Nd2 d6

9...a5 10.g3 (10.c4 Nf4 11.Qe3 Ng6 ∞ - 139/(117)) 10...Nb4 11.Nf3 Ba6 12.c4 Qg6 (12...c5 13.Bf4 Qg6 14.Rc1 Bb7 15.a3 Qe4 16.Rc3 Qb1+ 17.Rc1 =) 13.Kd1!/? (13.h5 Qc2 14.Rh4 c5 15.a3 Qxe2+ 16.Kxe2 Nc2 17.Rb1 Bb7 18.Bd2 Be7 19.Rh2 Be4 20.Rc1 Rb8 21.Bc3 O-O ∞) 13...c5! (13...h5 14.a3 Nd5 15.e6!?) 14.h5 Qb6 15.Bg2 (15.Ke1 O-O-O 16.Bh3 f6f) 15...h6 16.Ke1 Be7 17.Nh4 O-O!/? 18.Bxa8 Rxa8 19.Kf1 Qe6 20.b3 Re8 21.Ng2 Bf6 22.Bb2 d6 23.Nf4 Qf5 24.a3 Nc2 25.Rc1 Nd4©

10.exd6

10.Nf3 dxe5 11.Qxe5 (11.c4 Bb4+ (11...Nf6!/? 12.Qxe5 Bc5 13.Qxe6+ Bxe6 14.Be2 O-O-O 15.O-O Rhe8f) 12.Bd2 Bxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Qh6+ 14.Ke1 Ne7!/? (14...O-O?! 15.cxd5 cxd5 16.Qe3! Qd6 17.Rc1 ±) 15.Qxe5 Bg4 16.Be2 O-O-O 17.Ng5 Bxe2 18.Kxe2 Rhe8 19.Kf1 Qh5 20.Nf3 Nf5 21.Qf4 Qg6f) 11...Qxe5+ 12.Nxe5 Nb4 13.Kd1 Bf5 14.Bd2 Bd6 (14...Bxc2+ 15.Kc1 Bf5 16.Bc4©) 15.Nc4 Nxc2 16.Rc1 Nd4 17.Nxd6+ cxd6 18.Be3 c5 =

10...Bxd6

10...cxd6 11.Nc4 (11.a3 Be7 12.Nc4 O-O 13.Qxe6 fxe6 14.f3 c5 15.Bd2 Nf6 16.O-O-O d5 17.Ne5 Bd6 18.Re1 Rb8,,) 11...Be7 12.Bg5 Nf6 (12...Nb4?! 13.O-O-O ± Δd5? 14.Qd2 Bxg5 15.hxg5 Qe7 16.Re1 Be6 17.Ne5 Nxa2+ 18.Kb1 Qb4 19.c3 +-) 13.O-O-O d5 14.Qxe6 Bxe6 15.Ne5 Ng4 16.Nxg4 Bxg4 17.Re1 f6 18.Bf4 Kd7 19.Bd3 Bd6 =

11.Nc4 Bc5

11...O-O 12.Qxe6 Bxe6 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.Bd2 a5 (14...Bg4 15.f3 Rfe8+ 16.Kf2 Be6 17.c4 Nb6 18.b3 a5 19.Be3²) 15.O-O-O a4 16.a3 Rfb8 17.h5 h6 18.Rh4²

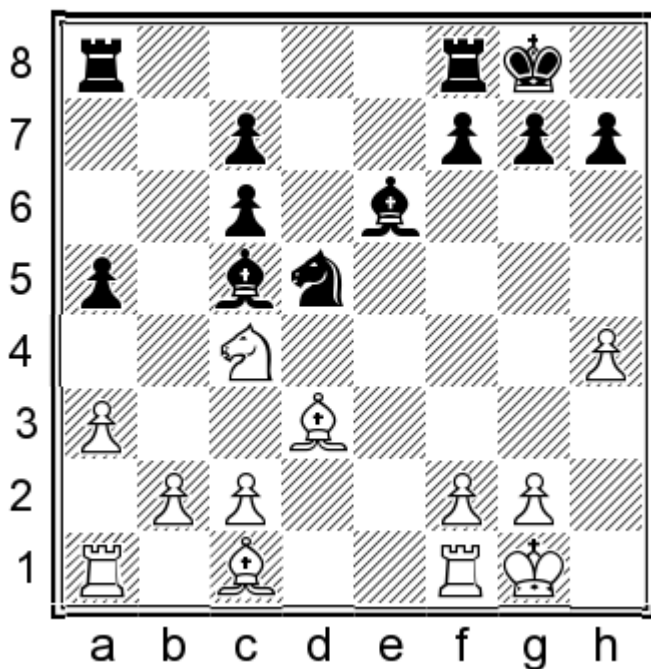
12.a3 O-O

12...Qxe2+ 13.Bxe2 O-O 14.O-O Bf5!/?,,

13.Qxe6 Bxe6 14.Bd3 a5

14...Nf6 15.Be3! (15.O-O Rfb8 (15...Ng4 16.Bf4 Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Bd6 18.Bc1 (18.Bxd6 - 134/103) 18...Rfe8 19.g3!? Nf6 (19...Be5 20.Rb1 Rab8 21.Kg2 a5 22.Be2²) 20.Rd1! Ne4 21.Kg2 Re7 22.Re1²) 16.Ne5 a5!? 17.Nxc6 Rb6©) 15...Bxc4 16.Bxc5 Rfe8+ 17.Be3 Bxd3 18.cxd3 Nd5 19.Kd2²; 14...Rfe8 15.O-O a5 16.Ne5 Bc8!? 17.Nc4 (17.Nf3 Bg4 18.Bd2 Bxf3 19.gxf3 Bd4 20.Rab1 a4 21.c3 Bf6,,) 17...Be6 18.Re1 Nb6 19.Ne5 Bd6!? 20.Nf3 (20.Nxc6?! Bd7f) 20...Bd5 21.Be3 c5 22.Nd2 a4 23.Bb5 Reb8,,

15.O-O



15...Rfb8N

15...Bd4 16.Re1 Rfb8 17.Ne5 Bxb2 18.Bxb2 Rxb2 19.Nxc6 Rb6 20.Nd4 Nf4 21.Nxe6 Nxe6 (21...Nxd3 22.Nxc7 Nxe1 23.Nxa8 Nxc2 24.Nxb6 Nxa1 25.Kf1! Nb3 26.Ke2 Kf8 27.Kd3 Nc5+ 28.Kd4! Ne6+ 29.Kc4 ±) 22.Re5 g6 23.Rae1 c5 24.Bc4 Rd8 25.c3 a4 26.R5e2²

16.Ne5 Rb6 17.Nc4

17.Be4 a4 18.Re1 Bd4 19.Bf3 h6 (19...Bxb2 20.Bxb2 Rxb2 21.Nxc6 Kf8 22.Nb4 ±) 20.Re4 Bxb2 21.Bxb2 Rxb2 22.Nxc6 Rxc2 23.Nd4 Rc4 24.Nxe6 Rxe4 25.Nxc7 Nxc7 26.Bxe4 Rd8! 27.Rb1 Ne6 28.Rb4 Rd4! 29.Rb8+ Nf8 30.Bc6 Rd3 =

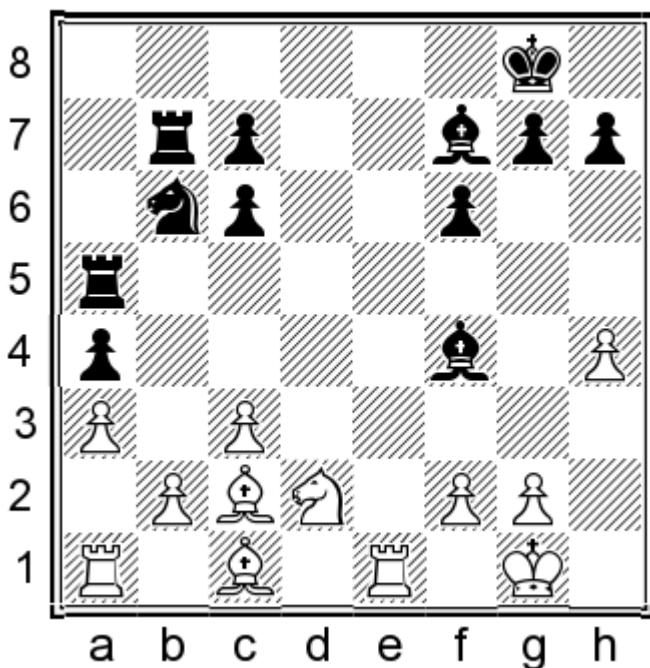
17...Rbb8 18.Ne5 Rb6 19.Nc4 Rb7!? 20.Ne5 f6

20...Rb6 =

21.Nc4

21.Nxc6 Bd7 22.Nxa5 Rxa5 23.Bc4 Be6 24.b4 Bxb4 25.Rb1 Ra4 26.axb4 Raxb4 27.Bb3 Kf7 28.Re1 Rxh4 29.Rxe6 (29.f4 g6 30.g3 Rg4 31.Kf2 h5 32.Ba3 h4 =) 29...Rxb3 30.Rxf6+ Nxf6 31.Rxb3 Rc4 =

21...Nb6 22.Nd2 a4 23.Re1 Bf7 24.Ne4 Bd4 25.c3 Be5 26.Bc2 Ra5!?
27.Nd2 Bf4?!



27...Bd6 28.b4 axb3 29.Nxb3 Bxb3 30.Bxb3+ Nd5 31.Bd1 Nxc3 32.Bd2 Rc5 33.Bxc3 Rxc3 34.a4 Ra7 35.Re3 =

28.b4!² Re5

28...axb3? 29.Nxb3 + -; 28...Ra8 29.Ne4 Be5 30.g3 Bg6 31.Bf4!? Bxc3 32.Nxc3 Bxc2 33.Re6 c5 34.bxc5 Bb3 35.c6! Bxe6 36.cxb7 Rb8 37.Bxc7 Rxb7 38.Bxb6 Rxb6 39.Nxa4 Rb5 40.Rc1 Ra5 41.Nc5²

29.Ne4 Bxc1 30.Raxc1 Bg6 31.Nc5 Rxe1+ 32.Rxe1 Ra7 33.Bxg6 hxg6 34.Re4 Ra8 35.Rd4 Re8 36.Kf1 Kf7

36...Re5 37.c4 Kf7 38.g3 g5 39.Nd3 Re8 40.hxg5 fxg5 41.Nb2 ±

37.c4

37.Nb7!? f5 38.Nd8+ Kf6 39.Nxc6 Re4 40.Na5! Rxd4 41.cxd4 g5 42.hxg5+

Kxg5 43.Ke2 Kf6 44.Kd3 ±

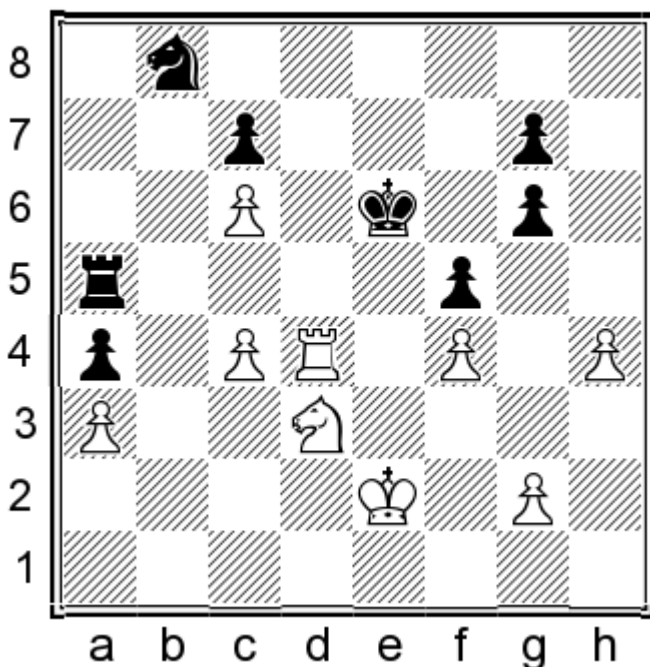
37...f5 38.Nd3 Kf6 39.Nb2 Ra8?!

39...g5 40.hxg5+ Kxg5 41.g3 Rh8 42.Kg2 Kf6 43.Rd3 Ra8 44.Kf3 g5,,

40.f4! Ke6 41.Ke2 c5 42.bxc5 Nd7 43.Nd3 ± Ra5

43...Nf6 44.c6 Ke7 45.Nc5 Ra5 46.Nb7! Ra6 47.Rd7+! Nxd7 48.cxd7 + -

44.c6 Nb8



45.Ne5

45.Nb4! Rc5 46.Kd3 Nxc6 47.Na6 Ra5 48.Nxc7+ Ke7 49.Rd5 + -

45...Ra6 46.Rd3?!

46.Rd5 Nxc6 47.Nd3! Ra7 48.Nc5+ Kf6 49.Kd3 ±

46...Nxc6 47.Nxg6

47.Nd7 Ra5 48.Nf8+ Kf7 (48...Kf6? 49.Rd7 Ra7 50.Nh7+ Ke6 51.Rxg7 + -)

49.Nh7 Ke7 50.Re3+ Kd6 51.Nf8²

47...Rb6!,, 48.h5 Rb2+ 49.Kf3 Rc2 50.g4 fxg4+ 51.Kxg4 Rxc4

51...Rg2+ 52.Kf3 Rc2 53.Re3+ Kf5 =

52.Re3+ Kf7 53.Kg5 Rc5+ 54.f5 Rc1! = 55.Re6 Rg1+ 56.Kf4 Nd4 57.Ne5+ Kf8 58.Ng6+ Kf7 59.Ne5+ Kf8 60.Ng6+ Kf7 1/2-1/2

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Nd5
8.h4 d6 9.c4 Nb6 10.exd6 cxd6 11.Be3

11.Bg5 - 44/(379)

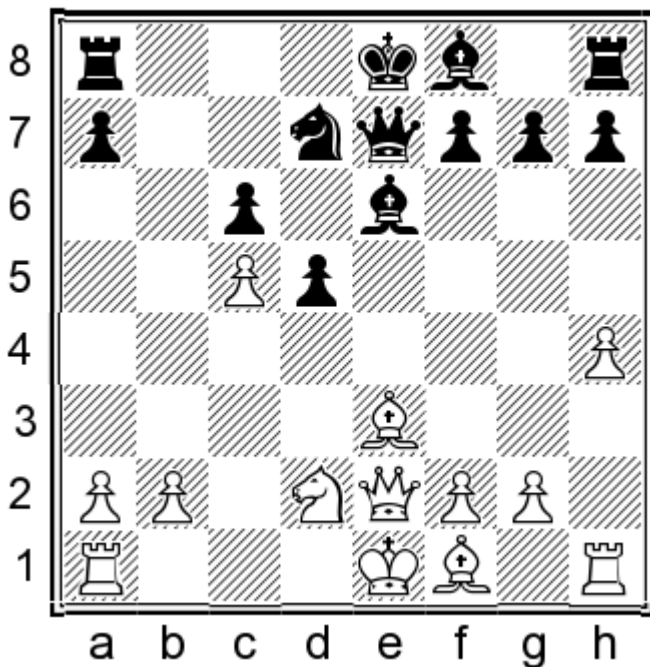
11...Be6 12.Nd2 d5!?

12...Qb7

13.c5

13.g3!? Nxc4 14.Nxc4 dxc4 15.Bg2 Qb7 16.O-O Be7 17.f4∞

13...Nd7



14.Qa6N

14.Nb3

14...d4? - 148/103

14...Qd8 - 148/(103) 15.Nb3 (15.Qxc6 Rc8 16.Qa4 Bxc5 17.Bxc5 Rxc5

18.Nb3 Rc7 19.Be2 (19.Qa3!?) 19...O-O 20.O-O∞) 15...Be7 16.Be2

(16.Qxc6 O-O 17.Be2 Rc8 18.Qb5 Bf6 19.Rb1 Be5∞) 16...O-O 17.O-O

15.Ne4! dxe3

15...Qd8 16.Bxd4 Bd5 17.O-O-O! Bxe4 18.Bc4 Be7 19.Rhe1 +- -

16.Nd6+ Kd8 17.Qa5+ Nb6 18.O-O-O Bd5 19.cxb6 Kd7

19...Qxd6 20.b7+ +- -

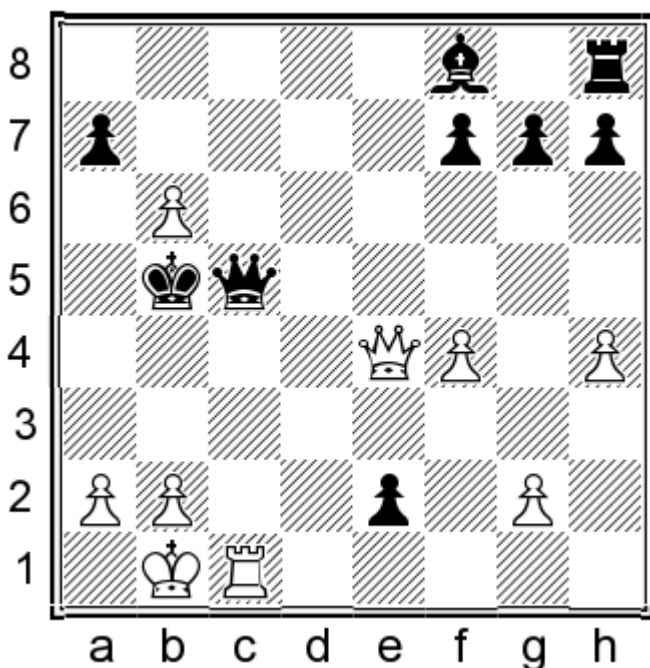
20.Rxd5! cxd5 21.Qxd5 Qxd6 22.Qb7+ Ke6 23.Bc4+ Ke5 24.f4+

24.Qxa8? Qd2+ 25.Kb1 Ba3! ∞; 24.Rd1! exf2 25.Qxa8 +- -

24...Kd4 25.Rd1+?

25.Be2! Qc5+ (25...Rb8 26.Rd1+ Kc5 27.b4+ Kxb4 28.Qe4+ Kc5
29.bxa7 +- -) 26.Kb1 Qf5+ 27.Ka1 Bb4 28.Qa6! Rac8 (28...Qc2 29.Qb5! Bc5
30.Qd7+ Ke4 31.Bf3+ Kxf4 32.Rf1 +- -) 29.b7 Rc2 30.Rd1+ (30.g4 +- -)
30...Bd2 31.b8=Q Rxb8 32.Qd6+ Qd5 33.Qxb8 +- -

25...Kxc4 26.Qxa8 Qc5! 27.Kb1 e2 28.Qe4+ Kb5 29.Rc1



29...Qxb6

29...e1=Q! 30.Rxe1 Kxb6 (30...Qc6 31.Qd3+ Kxb6 32.Rc1 Qe8 (32...Bc5
33.b4 Qb5 34.Qxb5+ Kxb5 35.Rxc5+ Kxb4 36.Rc7 Re8 37.Rxf7 Re1+
38.Kc2 Re2+ 39.Kd3 Rxc2 40.Rxa7 ±) 33.h5!? ±) 31.Re3 (31.Rc1 Qb5 32.a4

Qd7 33.Rc3 a5 ∞) 31...Qc6 32.Rb3+ Kc7 33.Rc3 Bc5 34.Qxc6+ Kxc6
35.b4 ±

30.Qxe2+ Ka5 31.Qh5+ Ka6?

31...Qb5 32.Qxf7 Bc5 33.a4! (33.Qxg7 Rd8 34.Qxh7 Rd2 35.Qc7+ Bb6
36.Qc3+ Qb4 ∞) 33...Qd3+ 34.Ka2 Bb6 35.Rc3 Qe4 (35...Qe2 36.Qd5+ Ka6
37.Rd3 Qe8 38.a5 ±) 36.Qh5+ Ka6 37.Qb5+ Kb7 38.a5 Rd8 39.axb6 axb6 ±

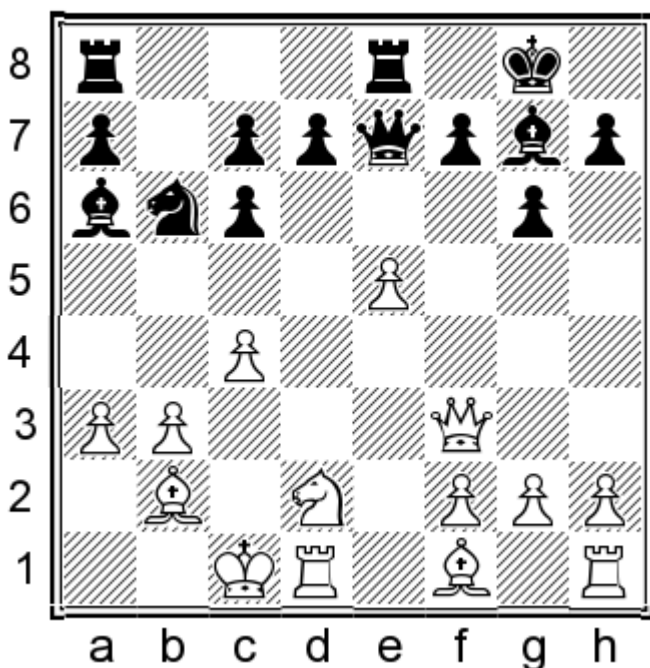
**32.Qd5 +- Qb5 33.Rc6+ Ka5 34.Qd8+ Ka4 35.Qd4+ Bb4 36.b3+ Ka3
37.Qb2# 1-0**

104. * C45

Kollars, Dmitrij (2598) - Heimann, Andreas (2606)

Magdeburg 148/104, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Nd5
8.c4 Ba6 9.b3 g6 10.Ba3 Nb4 11.Bb2 Bg7 12.a3 Nd5 13.Nd2 O-O 14.O-O-
O Rfe8 15.Qf3 Nb6



16.Kb1N

16.Ne4 - 142/104

16...d5 - 148/104

16...Bxe5N 17.Re1 d6? (17...Qd6? 18.Rxe5 Rxe5 19.Ne4 Rxe4 20.Qxe4 ±;

17...f6 18.h4 Qf8 (18...d5 19.h5 g5 20.h6 ∞) 19.Bxe5 fxe5 20.h5 Qxf3
 21.gxf3 ∞) 18.c5! Bxf1 19.cxb6 Kollars,D (2598)-Krivonosov,O (2371)
 chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(104) 2021 (19.cxb6 Bb5 (19...Qg5 20.Nxf1 Bxb2
 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Kxb2 Qe5+ 23.Qc3 Qe2+ 24.Qc2 Qe5+ 25.Ka2 Qe2
 26.Qb2 Qxb2+ 27.Kxb2 Re2+ 28.Kc3 cxb6 29.Ne3 Rxf2 30.Rd1 ±) 20.a4
 Ba6 21.Qxc6 ±)

17.exd6 cxd6 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.Qc3+

19.h4 d5 ∞

19...Kg8 20.h4 d5 21.h5 dxc4 22.hxg6 fxg6 23.Bxc4+

23.Nxc4 Nd5 24.Qb2 Rad8 25.Rc1 c5 26.Rh3 Bc8 27.Rg3 Bf5+ 28.Ka2
 Qf6 ∞

23...Bxc4

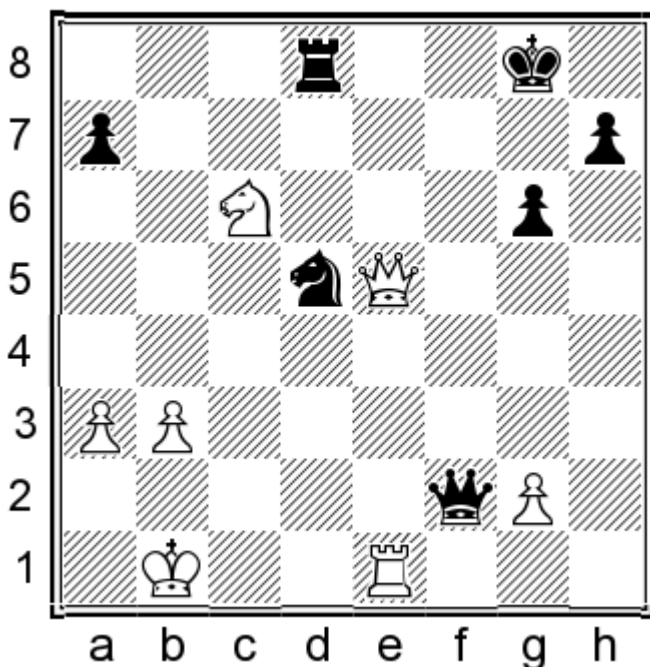
23...Nxc4 24.Nxc4 Qe4+ 25.Ka1 Rad8 26.Ne3 ∞

24.Nxc4 Rad8 25.Rxd8 Rxd8 26.Re1

26.Nxb6 axb6 27.Qxc6 Qxa3 28.Qe6+ Kg7 29.Rc1 (29.Qxb6 Ra8 30.Qc7+
 Kf8 =) 29...Qd6 =; 26.f3!? Nd5 27.Qb2 ∞

26...Qf7 27.Nxb6

27.Ne5 Qxf2 28.Nxc6 Nd5 29.Qe5



29...Ne3! 30.Qe6+ (30.Qxe3?? Rd1+- +) 30...Kh8 31.Qe5+ Kg8 =

27...axb6 28.f3 c5 29.Kb2 Qd5 30.Re2 Kf7 31.Qe3 Qd4+ 32.Qxd4 Rxd4
33.Kc3 g5 34.b4 g4 35.fxg4 Rxd4 36.bxc5 bxc5 37.Kb3 Rg3+ 38.Kb2 Rg4
39.Kb3 Rg3+ 40.Kb2 Rg4 1/2-1/2

105. C45

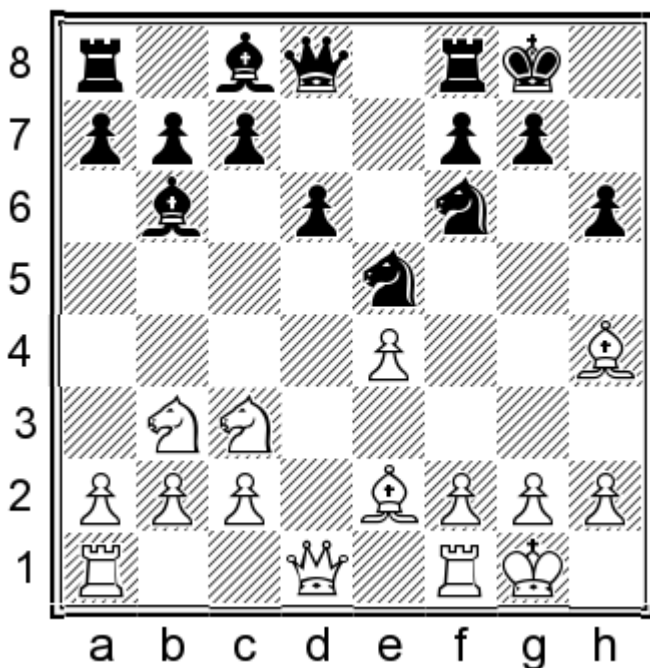
Artemiev, Vladislav (2709) - Malakhov, Vladimir (2665)

Russia 148/105, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Nb3 Bb6 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Bg5 O-O
8.Be2

8.Qf3 - 122/(107)

8...h6 9.Bh4 d6 10.O-O Ne5?!



10...Re8 11.Kh1 ∞

11.a4!?N

11.Nd5 g5! 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.Bg3 Be6 ∞

11...Ng6

11...c6 12.a5 Bc7 13.Qd4²

12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.a5 Bc5 14.Nd5 Qxb2

¹14...Qg5 15.Kh1 (15.Nxc7? Bh3 16.g3 (16.Bf3?? Bxg2!- +) 16...Bxf1 17.Bxf1 Rad8μ; 15.Nxc5 Bh3! 16.Bf3 Nh4 17.g3 Bxf1 18.Nd7 Bc4 19.Nxf8 Nxf3+ 20.Qxf3 Rxf8 ∞) 15...Nf4 (15...c6?! 16.f4 Qd8 17.f5! Ne5 18.Nxc5 dxc5 19.Nf4 ±) 16.Nxf4 Qxf4 17.Nxc5 dxc5 18.Qd5 Re8 19.Qxc5 (19.f3²) 19...Qxe4 20.Bf3 Qe7 21.Qxe7 Rxe7 22.Rfd1²

15.Nxc5 dxc5 16.Nxc7 Rb8 17.f4 b5

17...Ne7 18.Qd3 Qd4+ 19.Qxd4 cxd4 20.Nb5 Nc6 21.Rfd1 Rd8 22.Ra4 ±

18.axb6 axb6 19.Rb1 Qa3

19...Qd4+ 20.Qxd4 cxd4 21.Rb4 Bb7 22.Bd3 Rfc8 23.Nd5 ±

20.Rb3 Qa4 21.c4 Bb7 22.f5 Ne5 23.f6 Bxe4

23...Rfd8 24.Nd5 Nxc4 25.Rg3 Qxd1 26.Rxd1 Bxd5 27.exd5 b5 28.Rxg7+ Kf8 (28...Kh8 29.Rxf7 ±) 29.Rh7 Kg8 30.Rxh6 ±; 23...Nxc4 24.Bxc4 Qxc4 25.fxg7 Kxg7 26.Qg4+ Kh7 27.Qf5+ Kh8 28.Qh3 Kh7 29.Rxb6 Qd4+ 30.Kh1 Qg7 ±

24.Re3 Qc6 25.Nd5 Bxd5 26.cxd5 Qd6 27.Rg3 Ng6

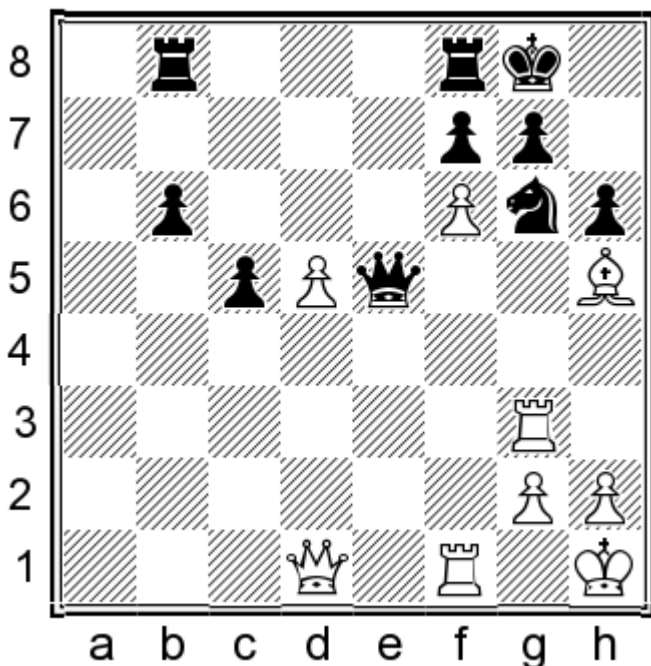
27...g5 28.Bb5! Rfd8 29.Qh5 Qf8 30.Bd3 + -; 27...g6 28.Qd2 + -

28.Bh5?!

28.fxg7 Kxg7 29.Qa1+ Kh7 30.Bd3 c4! 31.Bc2 ±; 28.Bd3 ±

28...Rbd8?

28...Qe5! 29.Bxg6 (29.d6 Qd4+ 30.Qxd4 cxd4 31.Bxg6 fxg6 32.Rxg6 Rb7 33.Rf4 d3 34.Rd4 Rbf7 35.d7 Rd8 36.Rxg7+ Rxg7 37.fxg7 Kxg7 38.Rxd3 b5 =; 29.Kh1



29...Rb7! 30.d6 Rd7 31.Bxg6 fxg6 32.Rxg6 Qe4 33.Rxg7+ Rxg7 34.fxg7 Rxf1+ 35.Qxf1 Kxg7²) 29...fxg6 30.Rxg6 Rf7 31.d6 Rd8 32.Qg4 Qd4+ 33.Qxd4 cxd4 34.fxg7 Rxg7 35.Rxh6 Rgd7 36.Rff6 b5²

29.Bxg6?

29.fxg7 Kxg7 (29...Rfe8 30.Qc1 Ne5 31.Qf4 Re7 32.Bd1! + -) 30.Qa1+ Kh7 31.Rf6 Qxd5 (31...Ra8 32.Qc3 + -) 32.Rfxg6! fxg6 33.Bxg6+ Kg8 34.Bf5+ + -

29...fxg6 30.Rxg6 Qxd5 31.Rxg7+ Kh8 32.Qxd5

32.Qb1 Qd3 33.Qxb6 Rd6 =

32...Rxd5 33.Rg6 Kh7 34.Rg7+ 1/2-1/2

106. C47

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - So, Wesley (2770)

chess24.com (Int.-m1/1-rapid) 148/106, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.a4!?

4.d4 - 147/100

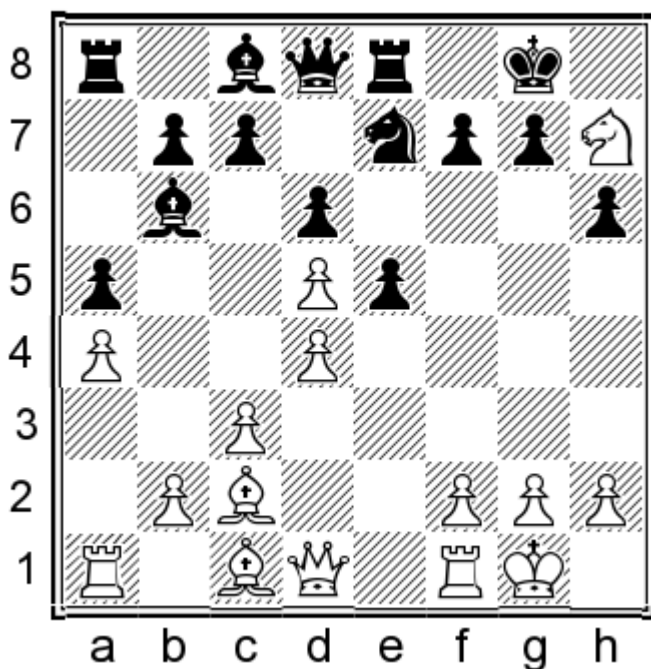
4...Bb4 5.Bd3 d6 6.O-O O-O 7.Nd5 Bc5 8.c3 a5 9.Bc2 Nxd5N

9...Ba7

10.exd5 Ne7 11.Ng5!? h6

¹11...Bf5 12.Bxf5 Nxf5 13.Qh5 h6 14.Ne4 Qd7 ∞

12.d4 Bb6 13.Nh7 Re8



14.Nf6+!

14.Bxh6 gxh6 15.Nf6+ Kg7 16.Qf3 Ng6 17.Nh5+ Kg8 18.Nf6+ Kg7 =

14...gxf6 15.Qh5 e4

15...f5 16.Bxh6 Nxd5 17.Bg5 Qd7 (17...Nf4? 18.Qh4 Ng6 19.Qh6 Re7 20.Bb3 d5 21.Bxd5! Qd6 22.dxe5 Rxe5 23.Rad1 +-) 18.Bb3 Nf4 19.Qh6 Re6 20.Bxe6 fxe6 21.dxe5 Nd3! ∞

16.Re1 f5??

16...Bf5 17.Re3 Qd7 18.g4 (18.Rg3+ Ng6 19.Be3 (19.Qxh6? e3!- +) 19...c5 20.Qxh6©) 18...Bg6 19.Qxh6 Qxg4+ 20.Rg3 Nf5 21.Rxg4 Nxb6 22.Bxh6 ∞

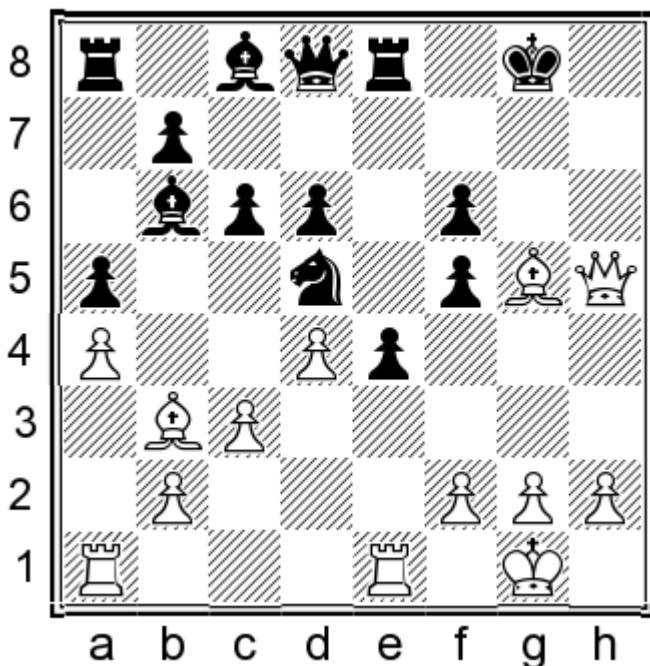
17.Bxh6 Nxd5

17...Ng6 18.Bg5 Re7 19.Bf6 Qf8 20.Re3 +-

18.Bg5 f6

18...Qd7 19.Bb3! +-

19.Bb3 c6



19...Be6 20.Qg6+ Kh8 21.Bxd5 fxg5 22.Re3 + -

20.Re3! Kf8

20...fxg5 21.Bxd5+ cxd5 22.Qg6+ Kf8 23.Rh3 + -; 20...f4 21.Qg6+ Kh8
22.Bxd5 + -

21.Qg6 f4 22.Bh6+ Ke7 23.Qh7+ 1-0

107. * C47

Tari, Aryan (2639) - Aronian, Levon (2781)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/107, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.Nxd4 Bb4 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.Bd3 O-O 8.O-O Re8 9.Bg5 Rb8

9...h6 - 78/(340)

10.f4 h6 11.Bh4 Be7 12.Qf3

12.e5 Nd5 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Nxd5 cxd5 15.b3 d6 16.exd6 Qxd6 17.f5N
(17.Qf3 ∞) 17...f6 18.Qd2 Bd7 19.Rad1 ∞ Perez Ponsa,F (2554)-Wagner,D
(2581) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(107) 2021

12...Rxb2 13.Bxf6N

13.e5 Nd5 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.Nxd5 cxd5 16.Qxd5 Bb7 (16...Qe6!/? ∞) 17.Qd4

Rb6 ∞

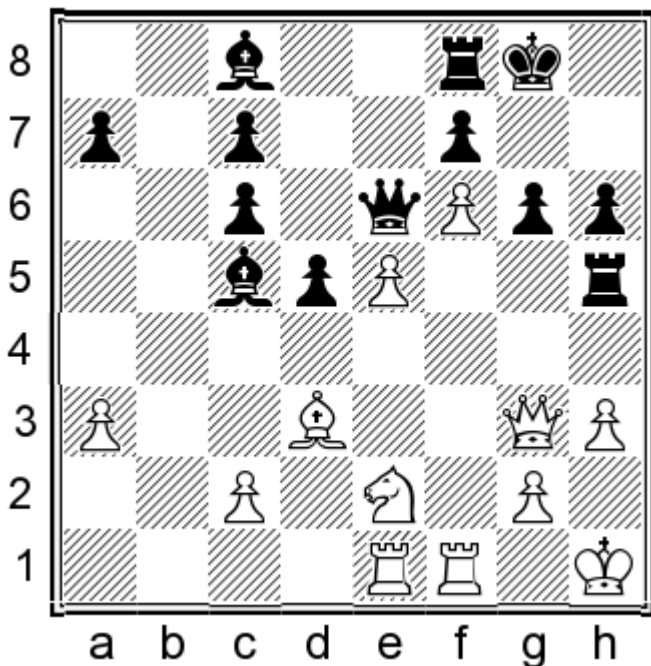
13...Bxf6 14.e5 Be7 15.Qe4 g6 16.f5 d5 17.Qf3 Rf8 18.f6

18.fxg6 fxg6 19.Qe3 (19.Qg3 g5 ∞) 19...Bg5 20.Qd4 Bf5 21.Na4 (21.Nxd5 Rb8 22.Nf6+ Bxf6 23.Qc4+ Qd5 24.exf6 Bxd3 25.Qxd3 Qxd3 26.cxd3 =) 21...Bxd3 22.Rxf8+ Qxf8 23.Nxb2 Bxc2 24.Rf1 Qb8 ∞; 18.Kh1!? Bg5 ∞

18...Bc5+ 19.Kh1 Rb4! 20.Rae1 Qe8 21.a3

21.h3 Rh4 22.Qg3 Rh5 23.Na4 Bb6 24.Nxb6 axb6 25.Qf4 ∞

21...Rh4 22.h3 Qe6 23.Qg3 Rh5 24.Ne2



24...Rg5

24...Qxe5? 25.Nf4 Rg5 26.Qh4 Qxf6 27.Nxg6 ±; 24...Rxe5!? 25.Nf4 Rxe1 26.Nxe6 Rxf1+ 27.Bxf1 Bxe6 28.Qxc7 Bxa3 ∞

25.Qh4 Rh5 26.Qg3 Rg5 27.Qh4 Rh5 28.Qg3 1/2-1/2

C50-C74

108. C54

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - Nakamura, Hikaru (2736)

chess24.com (Int.-m2/2-rapid) 148/108, 2021

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 O-O 6.O-O d5 7.exd5 Nxd5
8.Re1 Bg4 9.h3 Bh5 10.b4**

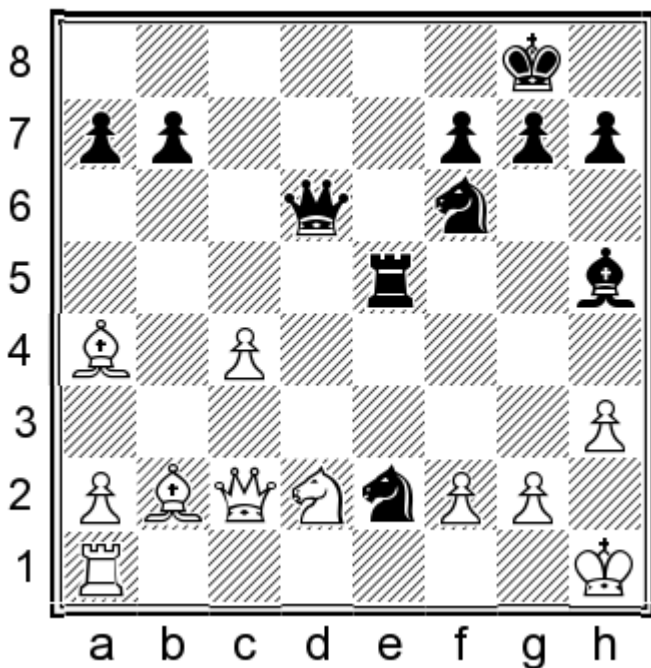
10.Nbd2 - 145/101

10...Be7 11.b5 Na5 12.Rxe5 Nf6 13.Nbd2 Bd6 14.Re1 Re8 15.Bb3

15.g4 Rxe1+ 16.Qxe1 Bg6 17.d4 Nxc4 18.Nxc4 Qd7 19.Nce5 Qxb5 20.c4
Qa4 ∞

15...Qd7 16.Rxe8+N

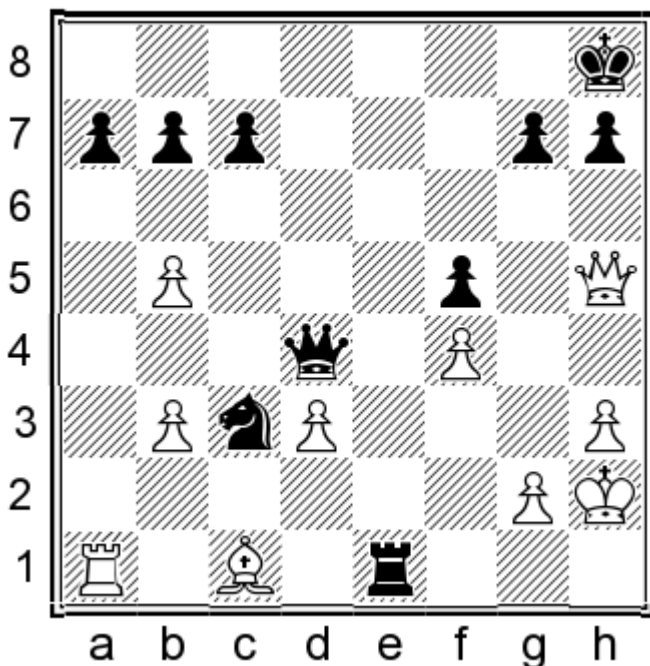
16.c4 Rxe1+ 17.Qxe1 Bb4 18.Qe3 (18.Qf1 Bc3 19.Rb1 Re8 20.Bc2 (20.Bb2
Bxd2 21.Nxd2 Be2 22.Qc1 Bxd3 23.Ra1 Qf5 ∞) 20...b6! 21.g4 (21.Bb2 Bxd2
22.Nxd2 Be2 23.Qc1 Bxd3 ∞) 21...Bg6 22.g5 (22.Bb2 Bxb2 23.Rxb2 h5
24.g5 Nh7 ∞) 22...Bf5! 23.Kh2 Nh5 24.Ne4 Bb4! ∞) 18...Re8 19.Ne5 Qd6
(19...Rxe5!? 20.Qxe5 Qxd3 21.Qxc7 h6 ∞) 20.d4 c5 21.bxc6 Nxc6 22.Ba4
Bc3! 23.Qxc3 Nxd4 24.Kh1 Ne2 25.Qa3 (25.Qc2?? Rxe5 26.Bb2



26...Ng4!!- + 27.hxg4 (27.Rf1 Re3!- +) 27...Bxg4 28.Bxe5 Qxe5) 25...Qxa3
 26.Bxa3 Rxe5 27.Bb2 Re6∞

16...Rxe8 17.Bc2 Nd5 18.Ne4 Nxc3

18...f5 19.Nxd6 Nxc3 20.Bb3+ (20.Qd2 Ne2+ 21.Kh1 Qxd6 22.Ng1 ∞)
 20...Kh8 21.Ne5 Rxe5 22.Qxh5 Re1+ 23.Kh2 Nxb3 24.axb3 Qxd6+ 25.f4
 Qd4



(25...Qg6 26.Qh4∞) 26.Bd2! Qg1+ 27.Kg3 Ne2+ 28.Qxe2 Rxe2 29.Rxg1 Rxd2 30.Rc1 Rxd3+ 31.Kh4=

19.Nxc3 Bxf3 20.Qd2?!

20.gxf3 Qxh3 21.f4 Bc5 (21...Re6 22.Ne4 Rg6+ 23.Ng3 Rxg3+ 24.fxg3 Qxg3+ 25.Kh1 Qh3+ 26.Kg1 Qg3+=) 22.Ne4 Rxe4 23.dxe4 Qg3+ 24.Kh1 Qh3+ 25.Kg1=

20...Qe6?!

20...Qf5 21.Kf1! (21.Ne4 Bxe4 (21...Nc4μ) 22.dxe4 Qxb5μ) 21...Bb4 22.Rb1 c5! 23.bxc6 (23.a3 Qe5! 24.Qe3 Bxc3 25.Qxe5 Rxe5 26.gxf3 Re1+ 27.Kg2 Re2 28.Bd1 Ra2μ) 23...Nxc6μ; 20...b6 21.Rb1 (21.Ne4 Nc4! 22.Qe1 Bxe4 23.dxe4 Qxb5μ) 21...Bb7μ

21.Qe3 Qd7 22.Qd2

22.Ne4 Bxe4 23.dxe4 Qxb5μ

22...Qe6 23.Qe3 Qd7 24.Qd2 1/2-1/2

109. !N C54

Eljanov, Pavel (2672) - Costachi, Mihnea (2471)

chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/109, 2021

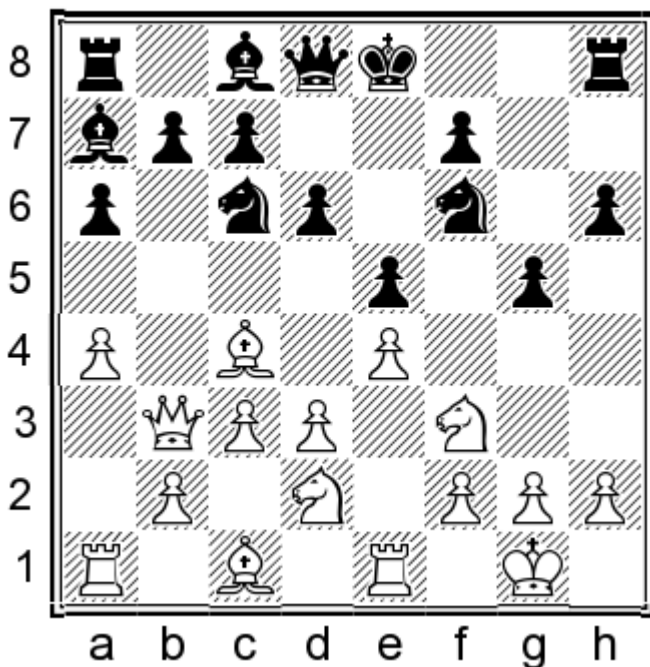
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.O-O a6 7.Re1 Ba7 8.a4

8.Bb3 h6 9.Nbd2 g5!? - 137/108

8...h6 9.Nbd2 g5!? 10.b4

10.Nf1 g4 11.N3d2 - 133/121

10.Qb3

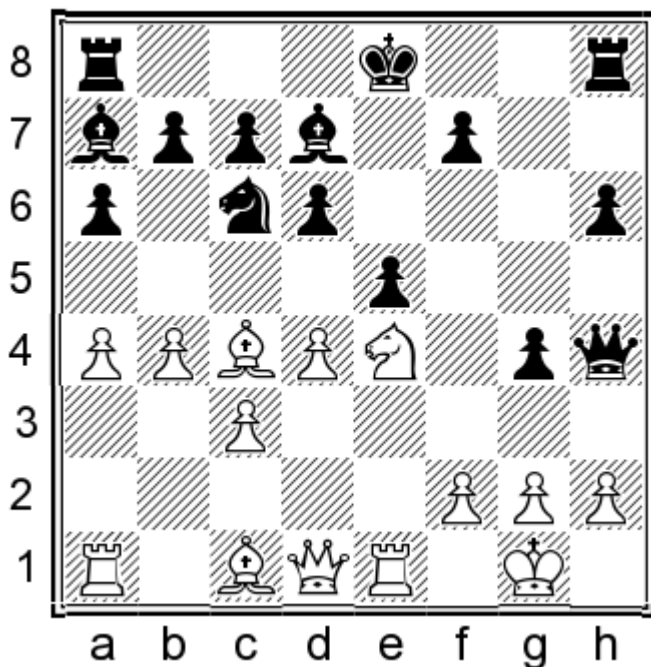


10...O-O! (10...Rh7 11.Qc2 (11.a5 Nh5 12.Nf1 g4 13.N3d2 Nf4 14.Ne3 h5 15.d4 (15.Ndf1 h4f 16.Nf5?! g3! 17.hxg3 hxg3 18.N1xg3 Qg5μ) 15...h4 16.Nd5! Nh5 17.Be2 exd4 18.Bxg4! Bxg4 19.Qxb7 Kd7 20.Nc4 Rg7 21.Ncb6+ Bxb6 22.Nxb6+ Ke7 23.Bh6 (23.Nxa8? Bf3 24.g3 hxg3 25.Qxc7+ Qxc7 26.Nxc7 gxh2+ 27.Kxh2 Rg4!- +) 23...Rg6 24.Nd5+ Kd7 25.Nb6+ Ke7 =) 11...Nh5 (11...g4 12.Nh4 Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Qxh4 14.d4 ±) 12.g3 g4 13.Nh4 Nf4 14.Kh1 Nh3 15.d4! Nxf2+ 16.Kg2 Nh3 (16...exd4 17.e5 ±) 17.b4 Ng5 18.b5 Na5 19.Bd5 (19.Ba2 Kf8 20.Ba3 Kg8 21.Bb4 Bb6∞) 19...c6 (19...Kf8 20.bxa6) 20.bxc6 bxc6 21.Ba2 Kf8 22.dxe5 dxe5 23.Ba3+ Kg8 24.Rad1 Qe8 25.Nc4©; 10...Qe7 11.Qc2 Nh5 (11...O-O 12.Nf1 g4 13.N3d2 Nh5 14.Ng3 Nf4 15.Ndf1²) 12.Nf1 g4 13.N3d2 Nf4 14.Ne3 h5 15.Ndf1 Qf6! (15...h4 16.Nd5! g3 17.Be3 Nxd5 18.exd5 Bxe3 19.Rxe3 gxh2+ 20.Nxh2 Nd8 21.d4 f6 22.f4 ±) 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 Ne7 18.d4 h4 (18...exd4 19.Ng3 Kf8 20.Ne4 Qg6 21.Bg5©) 19.dxe5 dxe5 20.Qe2 g3 21.Be3 =) 11.Nf1 (11.Qc2 Nh5f) 11...Na5 12.Qd1 Nxc4 13.dxc4 Be6 14.b3 g4 15.N3d2 h5f

10...g4?!

10...Nh5 11.Nb3 g4 (11...Qf6 12.b5 (12.Be3 Bxe3 13.fxe3 g4 14.Nfd2 Qg5 15.Qe2 O-O 16.Rf1 Kg7 17.g3 (17.b5 axb5 18.axb5 Rxa1 19.Nxa1 Ne7 20.Nc2 c6 21.bxc6 bxc6 22.Bb3 f5,,) 17...f5 18.exf5 Bxf5 19.Rf2 Rf6 20.Raf1 (20.Bd5 Bd7 21.Ne4 Rxf2 22.Qxf2 Qe7 ... Rf8) 20...Raf8 21.e4 Bd7 22.a5 Ne7 23.Na1 Ba4∞) 12...g4 (12...Ne7!? 13.d4 g4 14.Nfd2 Nf4 15.Nf1 h5 16.Be3 Neg6 17.bxa6 bxa6 18.Na5 Bd7 19.Bd5 Nxd5 20.exd5 O-O 21.dxe5 Nxe5 22.Bxa7 Rxa7 23.Qd4 Raa8 24.Nc4 Rae8∞) 13.bxc6 gxf3 14.d4 bxc6 15.Re3!? (15.Be3 Nf4!? 16.Qxf3 Nh3+ 17.Kf1 Qxf3 18.gxf3 Rg8 19.Ke2 Rg2,,) 15...Qg6 16.Rxf3 Bg4 17.h3 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Nf6 19.Bxa6 Nd7 20.Bf1²) 12.b5 axb5 (12...gxf3 13.Qxf3 Qf6 14.Qxf6 Nxf6 15.bxc6 bxc6 16.d4 Be6 17.Bxe6 fxe6∞) 13.axb5 Bxf2+ 14.Kxf2 Rxa1 15.Nxa1 gxf3 16.g3 Na5 17.Qxf3 Nxc4 18.Qxh5 Nb6 19.Nc2 Qf6+ (19...Na4 20.Bd2 Qf6+ 21.Kg2 Qg6 22.Qh4 Be6 23.Nb4²) 20.Kg2 Qg6 21.Qh4 f5,,

11.Nh4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 Qxh4 13.d4f Bd7



13...f5 14.Ng3 e4 (14...f4? 15.Bxf4 Rf8 16.Be3 Bd7 17.b5 Na5 18.Bd3 +-; 14...Kf8? 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Qd5! Nxc4 (16...Qe7 17.Bxh6+! +-; 16...Qf6 17.Nh5 Qf7 18.Rxe5 +-) 17.Qxc4 c6 18.Bf4 +-) 15.Qb3 Rf8 (15...Ne7 16.Bf7+ Kd8 17.Nh5 Nc6 18.b5 Na5 19.Qb4 Rf8 20.g3 Qe7 21.Bd5 +-) 16.b5 Na5 17.Qb4 Nxc4 18.Qxc4 Bb6 19.a5 axb5 20.Qxb5+ Kd8 21.Bf4 ±

14.b5!N

14.g3 Qe7 15.b5! Nxd4 16.cxd4 Bxd4 17.Rb1 (17.bxa6 Bxa1 18.axb7 Rb8 19.a5 + -) 17...axb5 18.axb5 f5 19.Nf6+! (19.Qxd4?! exd4 20.Nf6+ Kd8 21.Rxe7 Kxe7 22.Nd5+ Kd8 23.Bb2 Ra4 24.Bxd4 Rf8 25.Bg7 Rxc4 26.Bxf8 Rc5 27.Nf6 Bxb5²) 19...Qxf6 20.Qxd4 Be6 21.Qc3 Bxc4 22.Qxc4 Qf7 (22...Kd7 23.Be3 Qe6 24.Qc3 ... Rec1+-) 23.Qc3 Kf8 24.f4! gxf3 25.Qxf3 Kg7 26.Qxb7 Rhb8 27.Qf3 Ra4 28.Be3 + -

14...Na5 15.Ba2?!

15.g3! Qd8 (15...Qe7 16.dxe5 dxe5 17.Ba3 + -) 16.Ba2 Bf5 (16...f5 17.Nxd6+! cxd6 18.dxe5 + -) 17.dxe5 dxe5 18.Qe2 Kf8 19.Ng5! hxg5 20.Qxe5 + -

15...O-O-O

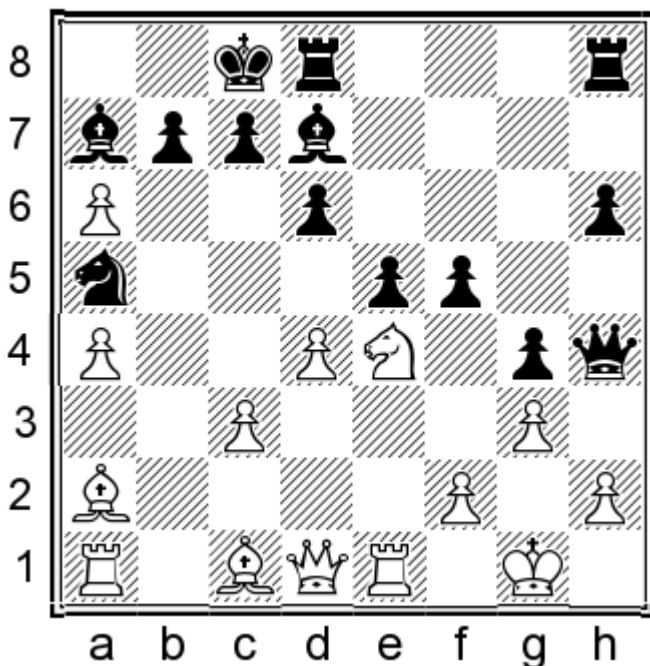
15...f5 16.Nc5! Bxc5 (16...e4 17.Nxd7 Kxd7 18.Bf4 Qe7 19.c4 + -; 16...dxc5 17.Rxe5+ Kd8 18.dxc5 Kc8 19.Bf4 Qd8 20.Qe2 Re8 21.Be6! + -) 17.dxc5 Qf6 18.cxd6 Qxd6 19.Qc2! ΔO-O-O 20.c4 b6 21.Be3 Nb7 (21...c5 22.bxc6 Qxc6 23.Qb2 Kb7 24.Rab1 + -) 22.c5! bxc5 23.Red1 Qb6 (23...Qf6 24.bxa6 Qxa6 25.Bc4 Qa5 26.Rab1 Kb8 27.Bd5 c6 28.Qb2 Bc8 29.Qxe5+ Qc7 30.Qxc7+ Kxc7 31.Bf4+ Nd6 32.Bc4 Rhe8 33.f3 + -) 24.a5 Qf6 25.bxa6 Qxa6 26.Bc4 Bb5 27.Rxd8+ Rxd8 28.Bxb5 Qxb5 29.a6 + -

16.bxa6?!

16.g3 Qe7 (16...Qh3 17.Nf6 Be6 18.bxa6 + -; 16...Qh5 17.Nf6 Qf5 18.Nxd7 exd4 19.cxd4 Rhe8 20.Bf4 Qxd7 21.bxa6 + -) 17.Ba3 ± f5 18.Nxd6+ cxd6 19.dxe5 + -

16...f5! 17.axb7+

17.g3



17...Qh3! (17...Qe7 18.Nd2 h5 19.Nc4 Nxc4 20.Bxc4 h4 21.Bd5 c6 22.Qb3 b6 23.Bg2±) 18.Nf6 Bc6 19.Nd5 h5 20.Ne7+ Kb8 21.Nxc6+ bxc6 22.Bg5 h4!,,

17...Nxb7?

17...Kb8! 18.Nxd6 (18.Ng3?! f4 19.Qd3 fxg3 20.hxg3 Qf6 21.Qa6 Nc6 22.Be3 exd4 23.cxd4 Rde8 24.Rac1 Rhf8μ) 18...cxd6 19.Bd5 Bc6 20.Bxc6 Nxc6 21.Qd3 Rhe8 22.Ba3 Qe7 (22...Re7 23.Qxf5 Rxb7 24.dxe5 dxe5 25.Rab1 ∞) 23.Rab1 (23.dxe5? Nxe5 24.Qa6 Qe6 25.c4 d5- +) 23...Qc7 24.Qa6 (24.Qxf5 exd4 25.Rxe8 Rxe8 26.Qg6 Rd8 27.cxd4 Bxd4 28.Qxg4 Bc5μ) 24...f4 (24...Na5!? 25.c4 Nc6 26.d5 Nd4 27.Kh1 f4 28.Bc1 f3 29.g3 Qf7 30.Ba3 Qc7 ∞) 25.Rec1 g3 26.fxg3 fxg3 27.Kh1 Ne7 (27...exd4? 28.cxd4 + -) 28.a5 ∞

18.Nd2?

18.Qe2! fxe4 19.Qa6! Kb8 20.Bd5 c6 21.Rb1 Bc8 22.Qxc6 Rh7 23.Be3 Rc7 24.Qa6 exd4 25.cxd4 Qe7 26.Rb5 ... Reb1+-

18...exd4 ∞ 19.Nf1?!

19.Nb3 f4 20.Nxd4 g3 21.fxg3 fxg3 22.hxg3 Qxg3 23.Re3 Qh4,,

19...Rhe8

19...Qf6! 20.Rb1 (20.cxd4 Qxd4³) 20...Rde8³

20.Rxe8 Rxe8 21.cxd4 Qf6,, 22.Bb2 f4 23.Rc1 f3?!

23...Qg5 24.Bc3 Na5 25.Qd2 Bb6 ∞

24.Ne3² c5?!

24...Qg5 25.Qd3 (25.Qd2 fxg2 26.Qc2 c5! ∞) 25...Kb8 (25...fxg2 26.Bf7! Re7 27.Qc4 c5 28.Bc3! ... Bd2 ±) 26.Bc3 (26.Bf7 Re7 27.Bc4 fxg2 28.Rb1 h5,,) 26...fxg2 27.Rb1 Bc6 28.Nd5 g3 (28...Bxd5? 29.Qb5 + -) 29.Qxg3 Qf5 30.Nb4 Bd7 31.Qxg2²

25.Qc2

25.Qd3! Qg5 26.dxc5 Kb8 (26...Bxc5 27.Bd4 Bc6 28.Bxc5 dxc5 29.a5 + -) 27.Bd4 dxc5 28.Qa6! cxd4 29.Bd5 + -

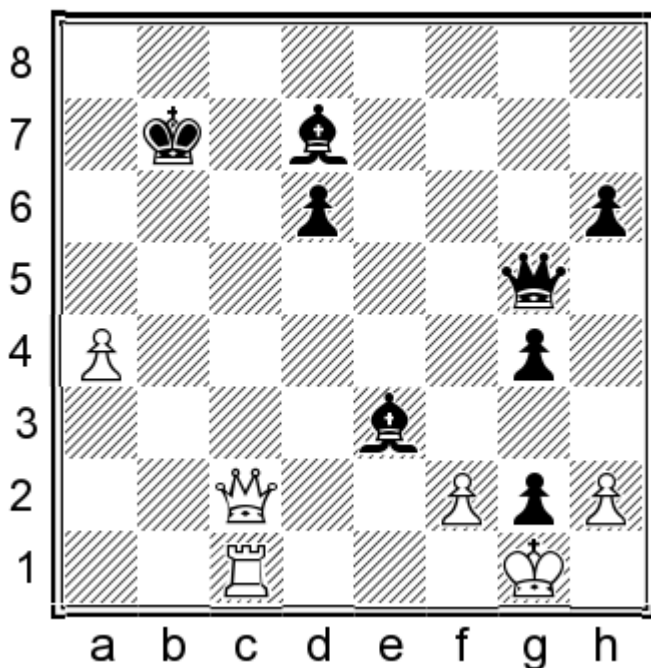
25...Qg5 26.dxc5 Bxc5 27.Bd4 fxg2?

27...Bc6 28.g3! (28.Bxc5 Nxc5²) 28...Kb8 29.Qc3 ±

28.Bd5! Rxe3 29.Bxb7+ Kxb7 30.Bxe3

30.Rb1+! Kc7 31.Bxe3 + -

30...Bxe3



31.Qb3??

31.Qc7+? Ka6 32.Qxd6+ Bb6 33.Rb1 Qc5 34.Rxb6+ Qxb6 35.Qd3+ Ka5 36.Qxd7 Qb1+ 37.Kxg2 Qe4+ = ; 31.Qe4+! d5 (31...Kb6 32.fxe3 + -)

32.Qb1+ Ka8 33.Rc7 Bxf2+ 34.Kxg2 Bb6 35.Qxb6 Qd2+ 36.Qf2 + -

31...Bb6- + 32.Qf7

32.Rb1 Qc5 33.Qf7 Kc7- +

32...Qxc1+ 0-1

110. C54

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - Aronian, Levon (2781)

chess24.com (Int.-m2/2-rapid) 148/110, 2021

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.O-O O-O 7.Re1 a5 8.Bg5
h6 9.Bh4 g5 10.Bg3 Nh7 11.d4 Ba7**

11...Bb6 - 139/121

12.h3N

12.dxe5 g4 13.Bh4 Ng5 14.Nxg5 hxg5 15.Bg3 Nxe5 16.Be2 Qf6 =

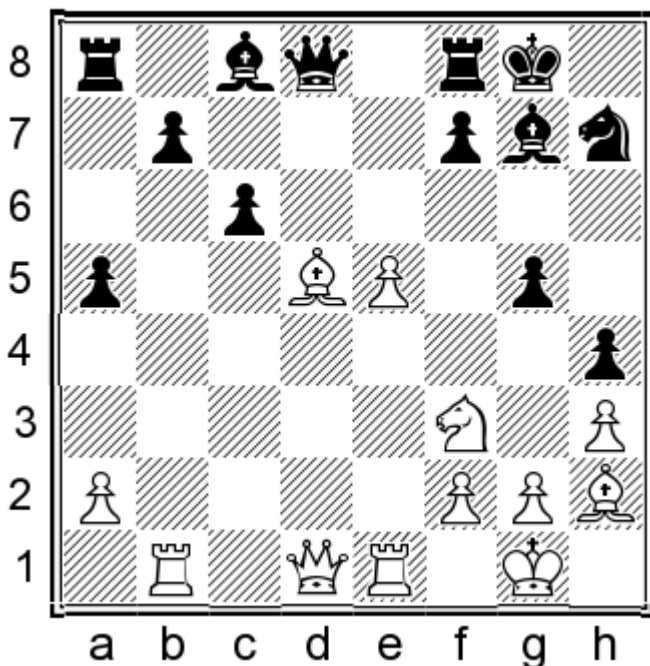
12...h5 13.Nbd2!? h4 14.Bh2 exd4?!

14...Qf6!?

15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.cxd4 Bxd4 17.Nf3 Bxb2 18.Rb1 Bg7 19.e5 d5

19...dxe5 20.Qc2!f

20.Bxd5 c6



21.Bxf7+! Kxf7 22.e6+ Bxe6 23.Qc2 Kg8

23...Qf6 24.Qxh7 +-

24.Rxe6 Qd5 25.Rd6?

25.Rg6!? Qf5 26.Qxf5 Rxf5 27.Rxb7 Rf7 28.Rxf7 Kxf7 29.Rxc6 +-; 25.Re5! Bxe5 26.Bxe5 Qe6 (26...Qf7 27.Rxb7! +-) 27.Qxh7+! Kxh7 28.Nxg5+ Kg8 29.Nxe6 Rfe8 30.Nc7 +-

25...Qf5 26.Qxf5 Rxf5 27.Rxb7 Rb5! 28.Rxg7+ Kxg7 29.Be5+ Kf8 30.Rd7 Re8 31.Bd4

31.Rxh7 Rbxe5 32.Nxe5 Rxe5 =

31...Re7 32.Rd6 Rc7

¹32...c5 33.Be3 Rc7μ

33.Be5 Re7

¹33...Ke8 34.Rh6 Rf7 35.Kh2 a4 36.Bc3 Rc5 37.Bd4 Rd5 38.Re6+ Kd7 39.Rh6 Re7 40.Ne5+ Ke8 41.Nxc6 Red7 42.Re6+ (42.Be3 R5d6- +) 42...Kf7 43.Re4 Nf6 44.Bxf6 Kxf6 45.Rxa4 Rf5³

34.Bd4 Rc7 35.Be5 Re7 36.Bd4 1/2-1/2

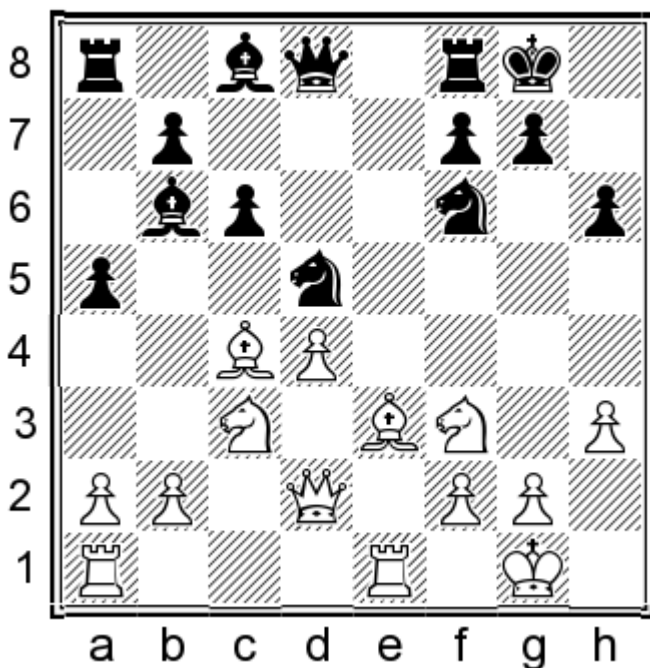
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.O-O Nf6 5.d3 O-O 6.h3 h6 7.c3 d6 8.Re1 a5
9.d4!?

9.Nbd2 - 143/105

9...Bb6 10.Be3 exd4 11.cxd4 d5 12.exd5 Ne7 13.Nc3 Nexd5

13...Nfxd5!? 14.Qd2 c6∞

14.Qd2 c6N

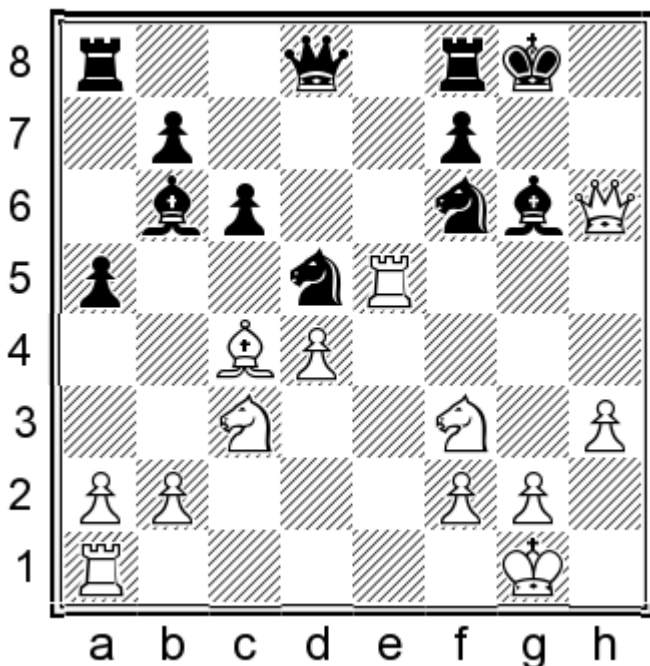


14...Be6? 15.Bxh6! gxh6 (15...Nxc3 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 (16...Bxc4 17.Qg5 Nh7
18.Qg3 Qd6 19.Ne5 Bd3 20.Bxf8+ Kxf8 21.Qxd3 +-) 17.Qg5+ Kh7 18.Bxe6
fxe6 19.bxc3 +-) 16.Qxh6 +-; 14...Nxe3 15.Rxe3 c6 16.Rd1 (16.Qd3!?²)
16...Nd5 17.Bxd5 cxd5 18.Ne5²

15.Bxh6! gxh6 16.Qxh6 Bf5?

16...Nh7 17.Nxd5 (17.Bxd5 cxd5 18.Re5 Qf6 19.Qe3 Be6 20.Ng5 Bc7
21.Nxe6 fxe6 22.Rxe6 Qf4 23.Rg6+ Kh8 24.Qxf4 Bxf4 25.Nxd5 Rad8
26.Nxf4 Rxf4∞) 17...cxd5 18.Bd3 f5 19.Re3 Qf6 20.Qf4 Be6 21.Rae1 Rae8
22.g4 Bd7 23.Rxe8 Rxe8 24.Re5©

17.Re5 Bg6



17...Qd7 18.Nh4 + -

18.Rg5

18.Nh4! Bxd4 19.Nxg6 fxg6 20.Nxd5 cxd5 21.Rg5 Bxf2+ 22.Kh1 Kf7
23.Bxd5+ Qxd5 (23...Nxd5 24.Qxg6+ Ke7 25.Re5+ + -) 24.Qxg6+ Ke7
25.Rxd5 Nxd5 26.Qe4+ Kd6 27.Rd1 + -

18...Nh7 19.Rg4 Re8

19...Nhf6 20.Rh4 Nh7 21.Bxd5 cxd5 22.Ne5 Bf5 23.Rf4 Be6 24.Ng4 f6
25.Re1 + -; 19...Kh8 20.Nxd5 cxd5 21.Bd3 Rg8 22.Bxg6 fxg6 23.Ne5 + -

20.Nxd5 cxd5 21.Bd3 Nf8 22.Ne5 Re6 23.Bf5 Rd6

23...Qf6 24.Bxe6 Qxe6 25.Re1 Qf6 26.Re3 + -

24.Nxg6 fxg6 25.Bxg6 Rxg6 26.Rxg6+ Nxg6 27.Qxg6+ Kh8 28.Qh5+ Kg8
29.Qg4+ Kh7 30.Re1 Rc8 31.Re6 1-0

112. **** C54

Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789) - Nakamura, Hikaru (2736)
chess24.com (Int.-m2/1-rapid) 148/112, 2021

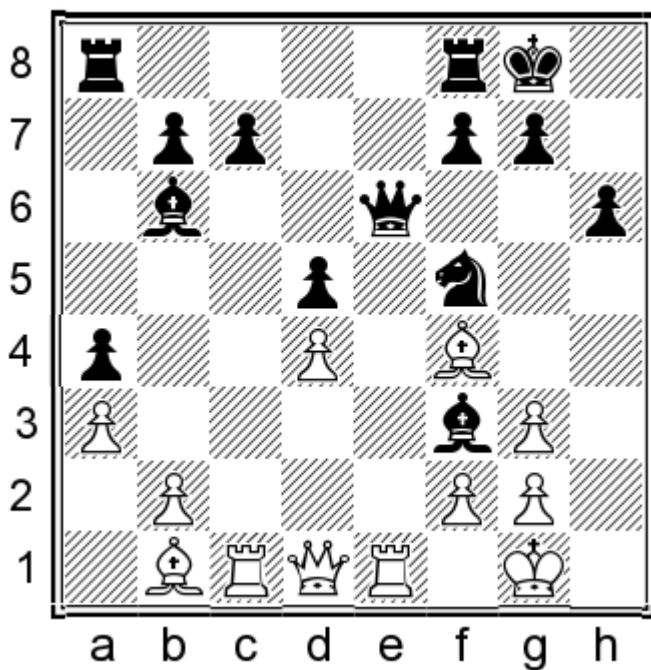
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.O-O h6 7.Re1 O-O 8.Nbd2
a5 9.Nf1 Be6 10.Bb5 Ne7 11.d4 exd4 12.cxd4 Bb6 13.Ng3 d5 14.e5 Ne4

15.Bd3

15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Rxe4 c5© - 144/96

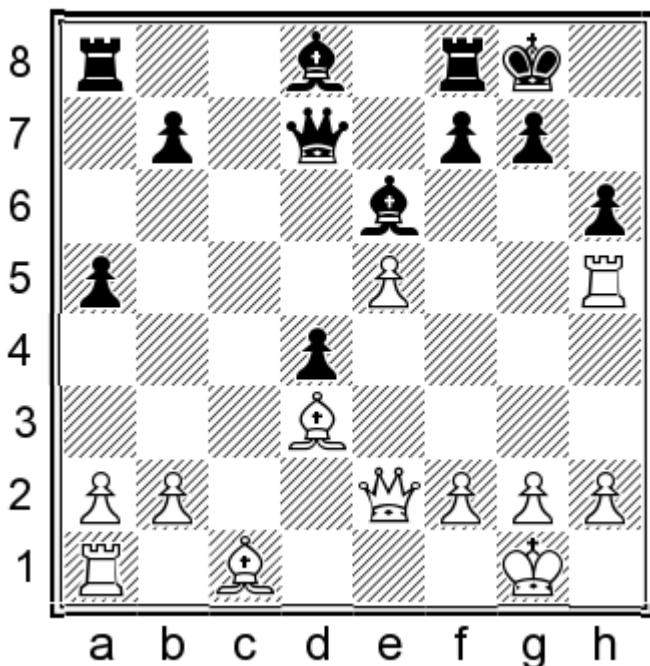
15...Nf5N

15...Nxg3 - 148/(112) 16.hxg3 Qd7 (16...Bg4 17.Be3 a4 18.Bc2N (18.Rc1) 18...Qd7 19.Qd2?? (19.Rc1 ∞) 19...Ba5- + Deac,B (2625)-Nakamura,H (2736) chess. com (Int.-blitz) 148/(112) 2021) 17.Be3 a4 (17...Bf5 18.Rc1 Bxd3 19.Qxd3 Qf5 20.Qd1 Qg4 21.Bd2 Rfc8 22.Be3 a4 23.Qd3 Nc6 24.Red1 Nb4N (24...Re8 25.Qb5 Qd7 26.Qe2 = Qg4 27.Qb5 Qd7 28.Qe2 =) 25.Qa3 Nc6 26.Qd3 Nb4 27.Qa3 Nc6 28.Qd3 1/2 (28) Korze,D-Zidu,J corr 148/(112) 2020) 18.Rc1 Bg4 19.a3 Nf5N (19...Rfe8) 20.Bb1 Bh5 21.Bc2 - 148/(112) (21.e6N Qxe6 22.Bf4 Bxf3



(22...Qd7? 23.Ne5 Bxd1 24.Nxd7 + -; 22...Qc8 23.Bxc7 Bxc7 24.Bxf5 Qxf5 25.Rxc7²) 23.Qxf3 (23.gxf3! Qd7 24.Bxc7! Bxc7 25.Bxf5 Qxf5 26.Rxc7²) 23...Nxd4 24.Qd3 Qg6 25.Qd1© Ding,L (2799)-Gukesh,D (2578) chess24. com (Int.-blitz) 148/(112) 2021) 21...Rfe8 22.Kh2 Red8 23.Kg1 Re8 24.Kh2 Ra6 25.Bd3 Raa8 = Glatthaar,M-Osipov,A corr 148/(112) 2020

16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.Rxe4 c5 18.Qe2 cxd4 19.Rf4 Qd7 20.Nh4 Nxh4 21.Rxh4 Bd8 22.Rh5



22...g6?

22...Bg4? 23.Qe4 g6 24.Rxh6 Bf5 25.Qf3 ±; 22...Re8! 23.Qe4 (23.Bxh6? Bg4 24.Qe4 f5!-+; 23.h3 Rc8 24.Bxh6 g6 ∞) 23...g6 24.Bxh6 (24.Rxh6 Bf5 25.Qe2 Bxd3 26.Qxd3 Rxe5) 24...Qd5 25.Qe2 gxh5 (25...Ra6!?) 26.Qxh5 Ra6 27.Re1 Bd7 28.Bd2 Rg6 29.Bxg6 fxg6 30.Qxg6+ Kh8 31.Qh5+=

23.Rxh6 Kg7 24.h4 ± Bf5 25.h5 Rc8 26.Bd2 Bxd3

26...Qe6 27.hxg6 fxg6 28.Re1 Be7 29.Bxf5 Qxf5 30.Rh3 +- -

27.Qxd3 Qf5 28.Qxf5 gxf5 29.Rd6 Re8 30.Re1 Rc2 31.Rxd4 Rxb2 32.Rd7

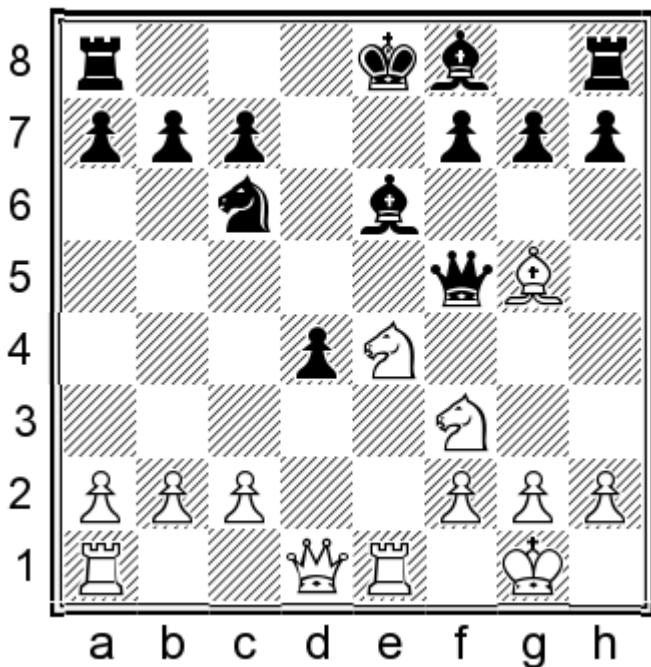
32.h6+ Kg8 (32...Kg6 33.Rd6+ f6 (33...Kh7 34.Rd7 +- -) 34.Rd7 +- -) 33.Rd7 Rxa2 34.e6! +- -

32...Kg8 33.h6 Rc2 34.Re3 f4 35.Red3

35.e6! fxe3 (35...fxe6 36.h7+ Kh8 37.Bc3+ +- -) 36.exf7+ Kf8 37.fxe8=Q+ Kxe8 38.Rxd8+! Kxd8 39.h7 +- -

35...Bg5 36.Rh3 Rxa2 37.e6! fxe6 38.Bc3 e5 39.Rg7+ 1-0

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.O-O Nxe4 6.Re1 d5 7.Bxd5 Qxd5
8.Nc3 Qa5 9.Nxe4 Be6 10.Bd2 Qf5 11.Bg5



11...Bc5??

11...h6 12.Bh4 Bb4? (12...Bc5 - 4/262) 13.Nxd4 +- Qd5N (13...Nxd4
14.Qxd4 Bxe1 15.Qxg7 Bxf2+ (15...Kd7 16.Rxe1 Rae8 17.Qc3 +-) 16.Nxf2
Rf8 17.Re1 +-) 14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.Nf6+ 1-0 (15) Jones,G (2677)-Kovalev,V
(2637) lichess.org (Int. -blitz) 148/(113) 2021

12.Nh4 +- Qd5 13.c4 Qe5

13...Qxc4 14.Rc1; 13...dxc3 14.Nf6+

14.Nf3 Qf5 15.Nh4 Qe5 16.f4 d3+ 17.Kh1 Qd4N

17...Qxb2 18.Nxc5

18.Nf3 Qxc4 19.Rc1 d2 20.Rxc4 dxe1=Q+ 21.Qxe1 Bxc4 22.Nxc5+ 1-0

114. !N C65

Najer, Evgeniy (2648) - Antipov, Mikhail Al (2609)
Russia 148/114, 2021

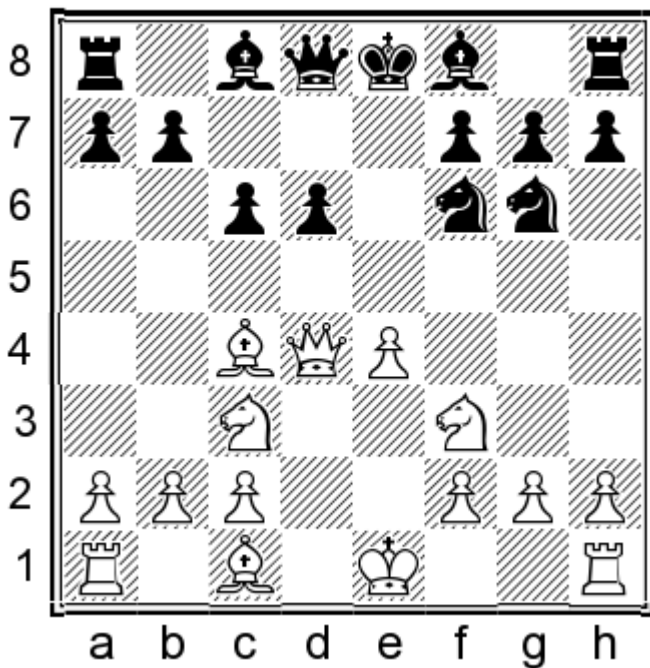
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Ne7!?

4...Bc5 - 145/108

5.Bc4

5.Nxe5?? c6 6.Bc4 (6.Nc4 Ng6 7.Ba4 b5-+) 6...Qa5+- +

5...c6 6.Nc3 d6 7.d4 exd4 8.Qxd4 Ng6



9.e5!N

9.Ng5 Ne5 10.Bf4 Nfg4 ∞

9...Qe7

9...dxe5? 10.Bxf7+ Ke7 11.Qc4 +-

10.Bf4!?

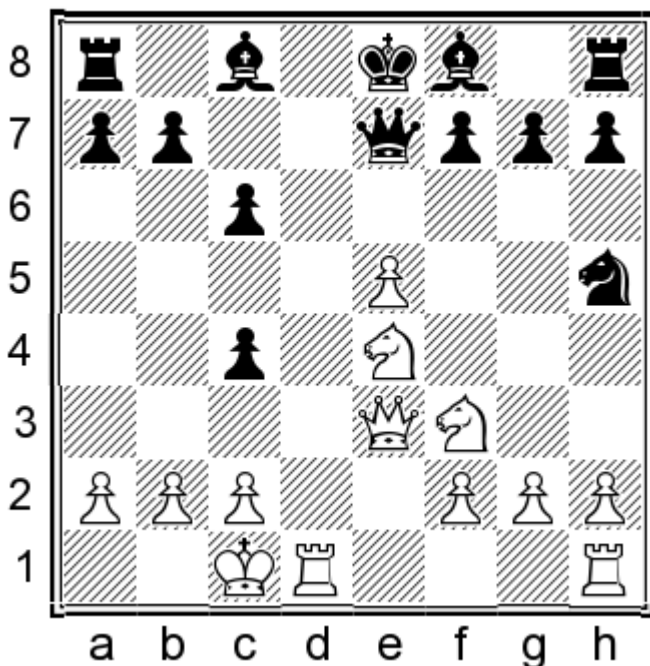
10.Qxd6 Qxd6 11.exd6 Bxd6 12.Be3 O-O 13.O-O-O²

10...Nxf4 11.Qxf4 d5

11...dxe5? 12.Nxe5 Be6 13.O-O-O ... Rhe1+-

12.O-O-O!→ Nh5 13.Qe3 Qc5

13...dxc4! 14.Ne4



14...Qb4! (14...Qe6 15.Rhg1! (15.Qg5 Be7 16.Qxh5 Qg6 17.Qxg6 hxg6 18.Nd6+ Bxd6 19.exd6 Be6∞) 15...c3 16.Kb1 ± ... g4) 15.Nd4! (15.Qg5? Be7 16.Qxh5 c3! 17.Nxc3 (17.bxc3 Qxe4- +) 17...Bg4+ +; 15.c3 Qb6 16.Qg5 g6 17.Rhe1 Be6 18.Nf6+ Nxf6 19.exf6 Qc7™ 20.Rxe6+! fxe6 21.Ne5 Bd6 22.f7+ Kf8 23.Qh6+ Ke7 24.Qg5+ Kf8 =) 15...c3 16.bxc3 Qa3+ 17.Kb1 Be7 18.Nd6+ Kf8 19.Nxc8 Rxc8 20.g4 c5 21.Nb3 Rc6 (21...c4 22.Nd4 Rc5 23.gxh5 Ra5 24.h6 g6 25.Qf4 Ke8 (25...Ra6 26.e6 Rb6+ 27.Nb3 Rxe6 28.Qb8+ + -) 26.Rhe1 →) 22.Rd5 (22.gxh5 c4) 22...Ra6 23.Rhd1 Nf4! (23...c4 24.Nd4 Rb6+ 25.Rb5 + -) 24.Rd8+ (24.Qxf4 g5 25.Qe3 h5!,,) 24...Bxd8 25.Rxd8+ Ke7 26.Rxh8 Ne6 27.Qe4 Qxa2+ 28.Kc1 Rb6 29.Kd2 Qa6,, (29...Rxb3? 30.Qd5 + -)

14.Rd4 Be7?

14...dxc4 15.Rhd1 Be6 (15...Be7? 16.Rd8+ Bxd8 17.Qxc5 + -) 16.g4 Qa5 17.Ng5!? (17.gxh5 h6 (17...Bc5 18.Ne4 Bxd4 19.Nd6+ Kf8 20.Nxd4 + -) 18.Nd2 b5 19.f4 Bc5 20.Nde4 Bxd4 21.Nd6+ Kf8 22.Rxd4 b4 23.Nb1f) 17...Bc5 18.Nce4 Bxd4 19.Nd6+ Ke7 20.Rxd4 ±

15.Bxd5! cxd5 16.g4 Bxg4 17.Rxg4 Qxe3+ 18.fxe3 f5 19.Ra4 Rd8 20.Rd1

20.Rxa7 Bc5 21.Rxb7 Bxe3+ 22.Kb1 + -

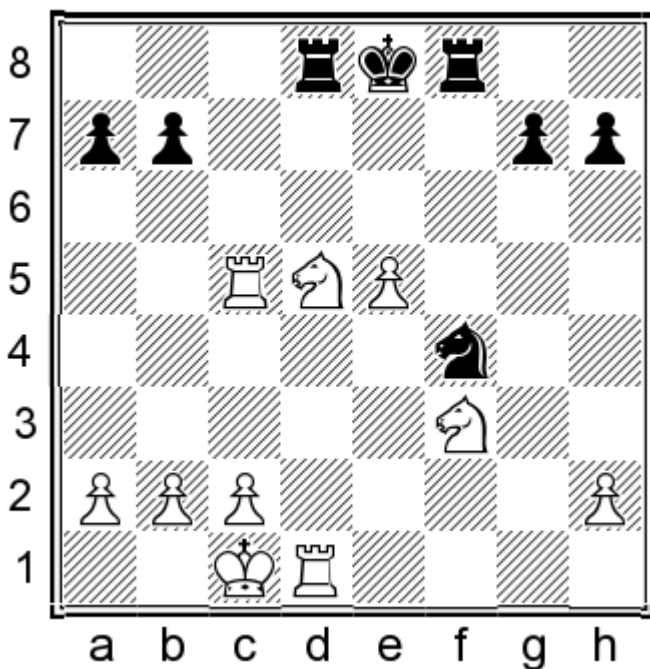
20...f4

20...a6 21.Nxd5 Kf7 22.Nxe7 Rxd1+ 23.Kxd1 Kxe7 24.Rb4 b5 25.a4 + -

21.exf4 Bc5 22.Nxd5 Rf8 23.Rc4

23.f5 Rxf5 24.Nc7+ Ke7 25.Rxd8 Kxd8 26.Ne6+ Kc8 27.Nxc5 Rxf3 28.Rxa7 Rf1+ 29.Kd2 Rf2+ 30.Kc3 Rxh2 31.Rxb7 +- -

23...Nxf4 24.Rxc5



24...b6

24...Nxd5! 25.Nd4 Ne3 26.Rd3 ±

25.Rc6 Rxd5

25...Nxd5 26.Re6+ Ne7 27.Nd4! +- -

26.Rxd5 Nxd5 27.Rc8+ Ke7 28.Rxf8 Kxf8 29.Kd2 +- - Kf7 30.c4 Nc7 31.Ke3 h6 32.Nd4 g5 33.Ke4 Kg6 34.Nc6 g4

34...a5 35.Ne7+ Kf7 36.Nd5

35.Nxa7 Kg5 36.Nb5 Ne6 37.b4 h5 38.Nd4 Nc7 39.a4 Kh4 40.b5 Kh3 41.a5 1-0

115. C65

Najer, Evgeniy (2648) - Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2625)
chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/115, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.O-O

5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 O-O 7.Nc4 Nd7 8.h4!? - 142/117

5.c3 d5 - 145/108

5...d6

5...Nd4 - 137/ 116

6.c3 O-O 7.Nbd2 Ne7 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Bb6 10.Re1 Ng6 11.a4 c6 12.Bd3N

12.Bf1 Re8 13.h3 Be6 14.b4 a5 15.b5 d5 16.e5 Ne4 17.bxc6 bxc6 18.Bd3

Nxe5!? (18...Nxd2 19.Bxd2 c5 20.dxc5 Bxc5 21.Bb5²) 19.Bxe4 dxe4 20.Nxe5

Qxd4 21.Rb1 Qxf2+ 22.Kh1 Rad8©

12...d5

12...Ba5!? 13.Qb3 Re8 14.h3 a6,,

13.e5 Nh5

¹13...Nf4 14.Bf1 N6h5 15.b4 f6 16.a5 (16.Nb3 Bg4,,) 16...Bc7 17.Ra3!/?²

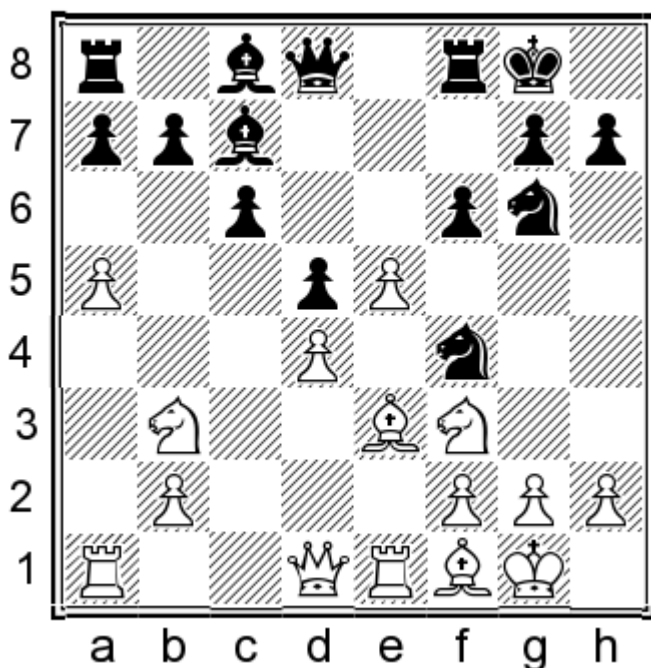
14.Nb3

14.g3! Bg4 15.Nb3 f6 16.h3! Bxh3 (16...Bc8 17.e6 Re8 18.Nh2 ±) 17.a5 Bc7
18.Nh4! Nh4 19.Bxf4 Nxf4 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.gxf4 ±

14...Nh4 15.Bf1

15.a5 Bc7 16.Bxg6 Nxb6 17.Bg5 f6 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Bh6 Re8 20.Nc5 Rb8 ∞

15...f6 16.a5 Bc7,, 17.Be3?



17.Bxf4 Nxf4 18.Qd2 fxe5 19.Nxe5 Qg5,,

17...Bg4! 18.Bxf4 Nxf4 19.Qd2

19.h3 Bh5 20.Re3 fxe5 21.dxe5 Bxf3 22.Rxf3 Bxe5

19...Bxf3 20.Qxf4 fxe5 21.Qe3 e4+ 22.gxf3 Rxf3 0-1

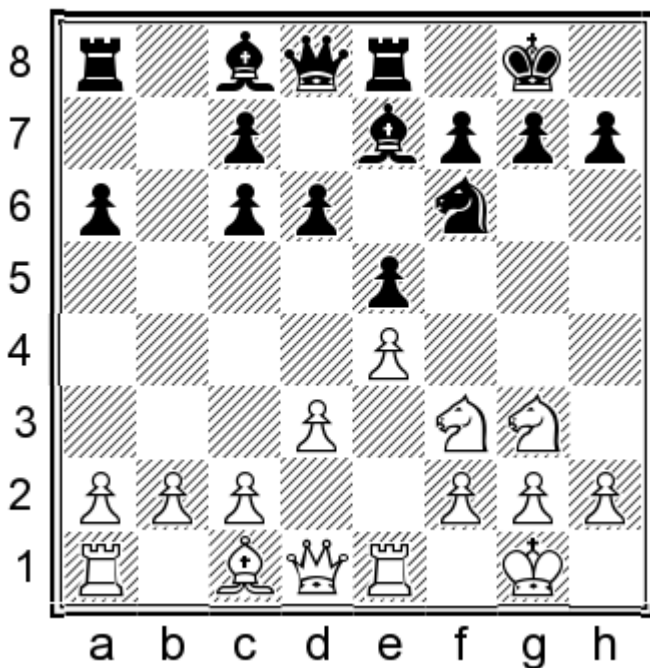
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 O-O 7.Nbd2 a6

7...Bd7 8.Nf1 h6 9.Ng3 Re8 10.c3 Bf8 11.a4 (11.h3 Ne7 12.Bxd7 Qxd7 - 112/185) 11...a6 (11...Ne7 12.d4 Ng6 13.h3 c6 14.Bd3 Qc7 15.Be3²) 12.Bc4 Na5 (12...Be6 13.Bxe6 Rxe6 14.d4 Δd5 15.dxe5 dxe4 16.exf6 exf3 17.fxg7 Bxg7 18.gxf3 Ne5 19.Qxd8+ Rxd8 20.Kg2²) 13.Ba2 c5 14.Nh4 Be6 15.Bxe6 fxe6 (15...Rxe6 16.c4 g6 17.Nf3 Nc6 18.Ne2 ... Nc3²) 16.Bd2 Nc6 17.Nh5 Nhx5 18.Qxh5 Qf6 19.Re3 Qf7 20.Qg4 Qf4 21.Qh3²

8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.Nf1

9.d4 Nd7 - 14/262

9...Re8 10.Ng3



10...c5N

10...Rb8 11.d4 exd4 (11...Nd7 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 dxe5 14.Qe2 Bc5 15.Rb1² ... Be3) 12.Nxd4 Qd7 13.Bd2!? Bf8 14.Bc3 c5 15.Ndf5²

11.c3 a5 12.d4

12.h3 a4,,

12...cxd4 13.cxd4 exd4 14.Nxd4 Bf8 15.Bg5 h6

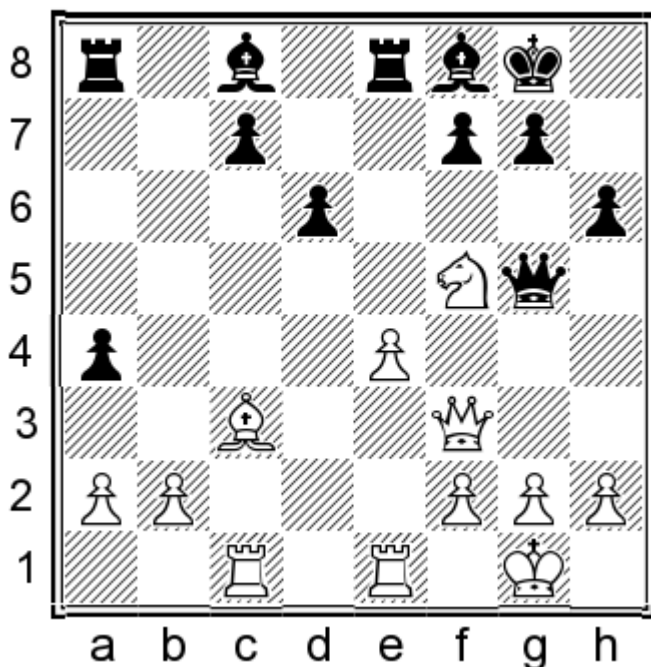
15...c5!? 16.Nb5 (16.Ndf5 h6 17.Bd2 Bb7 18.Bc3 (18.Qc2 a4[∞]) 18...Re6

19.e5 dxe5 20.Rxe5 Qe8 21.Rxe6 Qxe6 22.Ne3 a4,,) 16...Rb8 17.a4 Ba6
18.Nh5 Be7 19.Nxf6+ Bxf6 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Qxd6 Bxb5 =

16.Nc6 Qd7 17.Bxf6 Qxc6 18.Bc3 a4 19.Rc1

19.Qf3 Bb7 20.Rac1 Qd7 21.Qf4 Qe6,,; 19.Re3!? a3 20.b3 f5 21.Qd4 fxe4
22.Nxe4 Re5!? 23.Qd3 Rf5 24.Rg3 d5 25.Qd4 Rf7 26.Nf6+ Kh8 27.Nh5
Qd6 ∞

19...Qb5 20.Qf3 Qg5! 21.Nf5



21.h3 Be6,,

21...d5f 22.h4 Qg6 23.h5?!

23.Ng3 Bg4 24.Qd3 (24.Qf4 Bd6 25.e5 Be7³) 24...Rad8 25.Qb5 dxe4
26.Qxa4 e3!? 27.Rxe3 Rxe3 28.fxe3 Bd6 29.Be1 Bxg3 30.Bxg3 Rd2³

23...Qg5 24.Ng3 Bg4 25.Qe3

25.Qd3 dxe4 26.Nxe4 Qxh5 27.Re3 Re6 28.Rg3 Rg6μ

25...Qxe3 26.Rxe3 dxe4

26...Bc5 27.Ree1 d4 28.Bd2 Bb6 29.Nf5 Bxh5 30.f3 Bg6μ

27.Nxe4 Bxh5 28.Rce1 Re6 29.Bd4 Bg6 30.Nc3 Rea6!?

30...e5 31.Rxe6 cxd4 32.Rxg6 fxg6 33.Nd1 a3 34.bxa3 Rxa3 35.Re2 Kf7

36.Kf1 g5 37.f3 Bd6 μ

31.Re5

31.Nd5 Rd6 32.Nxc7 Rc8 33.Nb5 Rd5 34.Re5 Rdd8! 35.Bc3 (35.Be3 f6 36.Re6 Rb8 μ) 35...f6 36.R5e3 Rc4 37.Na3 Rg4 μ

31...Rb8?!

31...f6! 32.Re6 Rxe6 33.Rxe6 a3 μ 34.bxa3 (34.b3 Rd8 35.Be3 Rd3 36.Nb5 Rd1+ 37.Kh2 Ra1 38.Nxc7 Rxa2- +) 34...c5 35.Be3 Rxa3 36.Bd2 Bd3 37.Re8 Kf7 38.Rc8 f5- +

32.Rb5

32.Re8 Rxe8 33.Rxe8 f6 34.Rd8 a3 35.Bc5 axb2 36.Rxf8+ Kh7 37.Rb8 Rc6³

32...Raa8?

32...Rd8! 33.Be5 a3 μ

33.Rxb8 Rxb8 34.Nxa4 Rb4 35.Bc5! Bxc5 36.Nxc5 Rxb2 37.Ra1

37.Re8+ Kh7 38.Rc8 Rxa2 39.Nd7! =

37...Rb5 38.Nb3 c5?!

38...Kf8 39.Rc1 Rb7³

39.Rc1 = Rb4 40.Nxc5 Rb5 41.a4 Ra5 42.Rc4 f6 43.Nb3 Ra8 44.Rb4 Be8 45.Nc5 Ra5 46.Rb8 Kf7 47.Nb7 Ra6 48.a5 Bc6

48...Ke7 =

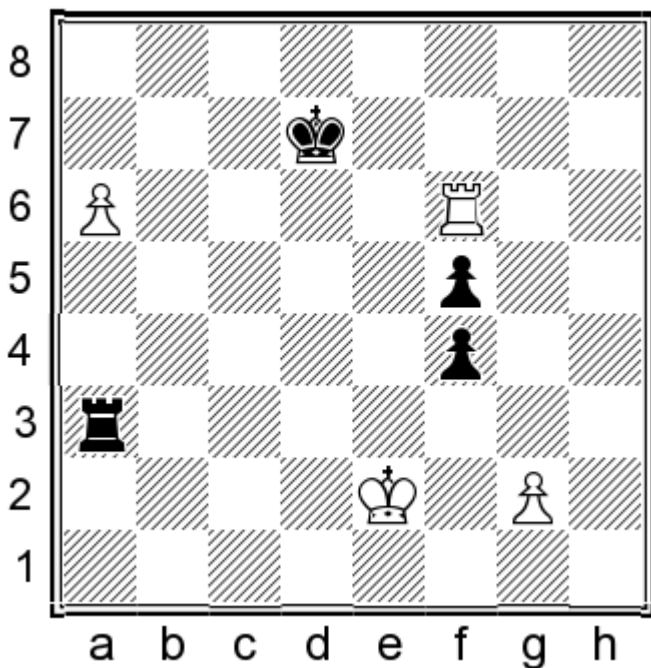
49.Nd8+ Ke7 50.Nxc6+ Rxc6 51.Rb7+ Kf8

¹51...Ke6 52.Rxg7 Ra6 53.Rh7 Kf5 54.Rxh6 Kg5 =

52.Rb6 Rc1+ 53.Kh2 Ra1 54.a6 f5 55.f4 Ra3 56.Kg1 Kf7 57.Kf2 g5

57...g6 =

58.Rxh6 gxf4 59.Rb6 Ke7 60.Ke2 Kd7 61.Rf6



61...Kc7?

61...Ke7 62.Rxf5 Rxa6 =

62.a7 ± Kb7 63.Rf7+?

63.Rxf5 Kb6 64.Rxf4 Rxa7 65.Rc4 + -

63...Ka8?

63...Kc6! 64.Kd2 (64.Rf6+ Kd5 65.Rxf5+ Ke6 =) 64...Kb6 65.Rh7 Kc6

66.Kc2 Ra5 67.Kb2 Ra4 68.Kb3 Ra1 =

64.Kf2

64.Rxf5! Rg3 (64...Kxa7 65.Rxf4 Kb6 66.Rc4 + -) 65.Kf2 Rg4 66.Rf7 Rh4

67.Rf8+! (67.Kf3 Rh3+) 67...Kxa7 68.Kf3 Kb6 69.Rxf4 Rh8 70.Rc4 + -

64...Ra2+ 65.Kf3 Ra3+ 66.Kxf4 Ra4+ 67.Kf3

67.Kg5? Rg4+! =

67...Ra3+ 68.Kf2 Ra2+ 69.Kg1 Ra5 70.Kh2 Rb5 71.Re7

71.Kh3 Ra5 72.Kh4 Ra4+ 73.Kh3 Ra3+ 74.g3 Ra5

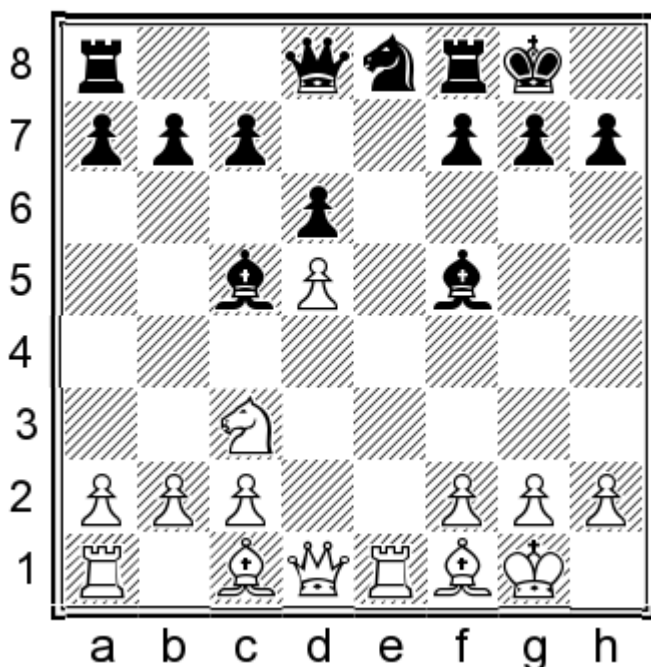
71...Ra5 72.Kg3 Ra3+ 73.Kf4 Ra5 74.Re8+! Kxa7 75.Rf8 Kb7 76.Rxf5 + -

Ra2 77.g4 Kc6 78.Ke5 1-0

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.O-O Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1
Nxe5 8.Rxe5 O-O 9.d4 Ne8 10.d5 Bc5 11.Re1

11.Be3 d6 12.Bxc5 dxc5 13.Nc3 Nd6 ∞

11...d6 12.Nc3 Bf5



13.Ne4!?

13.Bd3 Qh4 14.g3 Qh3 15.Bf1 (15.Ne4 Bxe4 16.Rxe4 Bxf2+! 17.Kxf2
Qxh2+ 18.Kf3 Qh5+ 19.g4 Qh3+ 20.Ke2 Qg2+ 21.Ke1 Nf6© - 132/129)
15...Bxf2+ 16.Kxf2 Qxh2+ 17.Bg2 Bh3 18.Rg1 Nf6 19.Bg5 Ng4+ 20.Qxg4
Bxg4 21.Rh1 Qxh1 22.Rxh1²

13...Bxe4 14.Rxe4 f5 15.Re1N

15.Rf4 - 148/(117) 15...a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Bd2 Qd7 18.Qf3 Nf6 19.Rf1 Nh5
20.Rh4 (20.Rc4!?) 20...Nf6 21.h3 Rae8 22.Rf4 Nh5 23.Rh4 Nf6 24.Rf4 Nh5
25.Rh4 1/2 (25) Barten,R-Borges,J corr 148/(117) 2021

15.Re6 Nf6f

15...Qh4

15...Nf6 16.h3 Ne4 17.Be3 Bxe3 (17...Qh4 18.Bxc5 Nxc5 ∞) 18.Rxe3 Qf6f

16.g3 Bxf2+ 17.Kxf2

17.Kg2?! Qd4³

17...Qxh2+ 18.Kf3

18.Bg2 Nf6 19.Bf4 (19.Qf3 Ne4+ 20.Ke2 Rae8f 21.Be3 Ng5! 22.Qf2 f4 23.gxf4 Rxf4 24.Qg1 Qg3→) 19...Ne4+ (19...Ng4+ 20.Kf3 Rae8 21.Qd4! (21.Rh1 Re3+! 22.Bxe3 Ne5+ 23.Kf2 Ng4+ =) 21...Qh5 22.Re6! g5 23.Bd2 ±) 20.Rxe4 fxe4 21.Qe2 Rae8 22.Rh1 (22.Rf1 g5 23.Rh1 Rxf4+ 24.gxf4 Qxf4+ 25.Kg1 ∞) 22...Rxf4+ 23.gxf4 Qxf4+ 24.Ke1 Qc1+ 25.Qd1 Qxb2 ∞

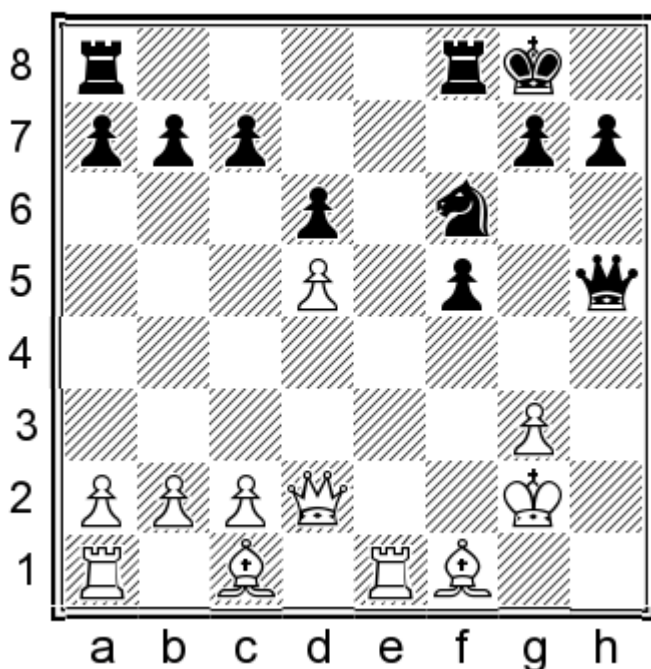
18...Nf6

18...f4! 19.gxf4 Nf6 20.Qe2 Qh5+ 21.Kg2 Ng4 22.Kg3 (22.Qe6+ Kh8 23.Kg3 Rae8 24.Qxg4 ∞ - 22.Kg3) 22...Rae8 23.Qxg4 Qxg4+ 24.Kxg4 Rxe1 25.Bh3 Rf6 26.f5 Rg1+ 27.Kf3 Rh6 28.Bxh6 Rxa1 29.Be3 Rxa2 30.Bd4 ∞

19.Qd2™

19.Qe2? Qh5+ 20.Kg2 Ng4 21.Kg1 Rae8- +

19...Qh5+ 20.Kg2



20...Ng4

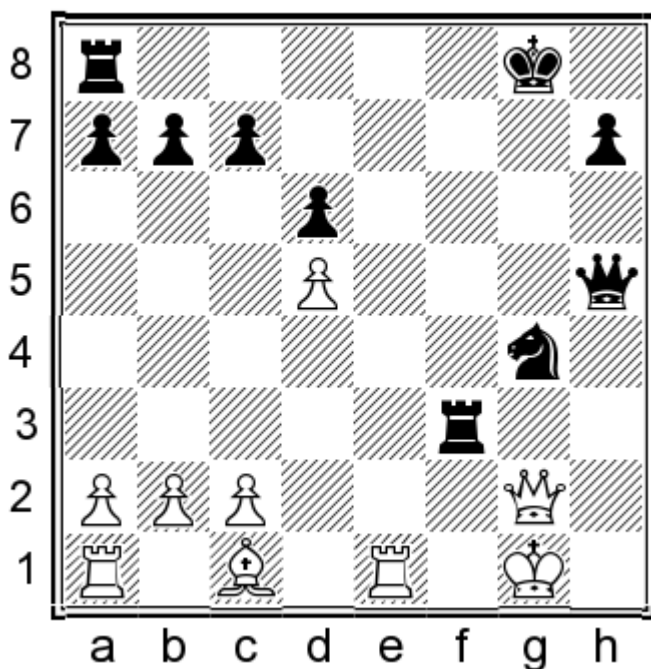
20...f4! 21.Be2 (21.gxf4 Qg4+ (21...Rae8©) 22.Kh1 Nh5 23.Qh2 Ng3+

24.Kg1 Ne2+ 25.Kh1 Ng3+=) 21...Ng4 22.Rh1 Ne3+ 23.Qxe3 Qxh1+
 24.Kxh1 fxe3 25.b3 Rf2 26.Bd3 Re8 27.Bb2 e2 28.Bc3 Re3 29.Rg1 (29.Be1?
 Rf1+ 30.Kg2 Rxd3! 31.cxd3 h5! 32.Rc1 g5 33.a4 (33.Rxc7 Rxe1 34.Kf2 Rg1
 35.Kxe2 Rxg3- +) 33...a5µ Ø) 29...Rff3 30.Be1 Rxd3 31.cxd3 Rxd3 32.Rg2
 Rxd5 33.Rxe2 Kf7 ∞

21.Kg1 f4 22.gxf4 g5?

22...Rae8! 23.Re6 (23.Rxe8 Rxe8 24.b3 Re1 25.Qg2 (25.Bb2? Re3 26.Bd4
 Rg3+ 27.Bg2 Qh2+ 28.Kf1 Rf3+! 29.Ke1 Qg3+ 30.Kd1 Nf2+- +)
 25...Qh4 ∞) 23...Rxe6 24.dxe6 Rf6 (24...Qc5+ 25.Kg2 Rf6 26.e7 Re6 27.b4
 Qh5 28.Kg1 Ne3 29.Qxe3 Rxe3 30.Bxe3 Kf7 31.Re1 Kxe7 32.Bf2+ ±) 25.e7
 Kf7 26.b4! (× c5) 26...Qh4! (26...Rg6? 27.Bd3) 27.Qg2 (27.Qe2 Ke8 28.Bg2
 Re6! 29.Qxe6 Qf2+ 30.Kh1 Qh4+=) 27...Kxe7 28.Bd2 Rg6 29.Re1+ (29.Bd3
 Ne3 30.Qxg6 hxg6 31.Bxe3 Qg3+ 32.Kf1 Qf3+ 33.Bf2 Qh1+ 34.Bg1 Qf3+
 35.Bf2 = (35.Ke1? Qxf4µ)) 29...Ne5 30.Qxg6 hxg6 31.fxe5 d5²

23.Qg2! gxf4 24.Be2 f3 25.Bxf3 Rxf3



26.Re4!

26.Qxf3 Qh2+ 27.Kf1 Rf8- +

26...Qh2+

26...Kh8 27.Rxg4 + -

27.Qxh2 Nxh2 28.Kxh2 Rf2+ 29.Kh3 Rxc2 30.Bh6 Kh8 31.Rg1 1-0

118. C67

Giri, Anish (2780) - Radjabov, Teimour (2765)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/118, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.O-O Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5
Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Bd7 10.Rd1 Kc8 11.g4 Ne7 12.Ng5 Be8 13.f4 c5

13...h5 - 118/98

14.f5N

14.Nc3

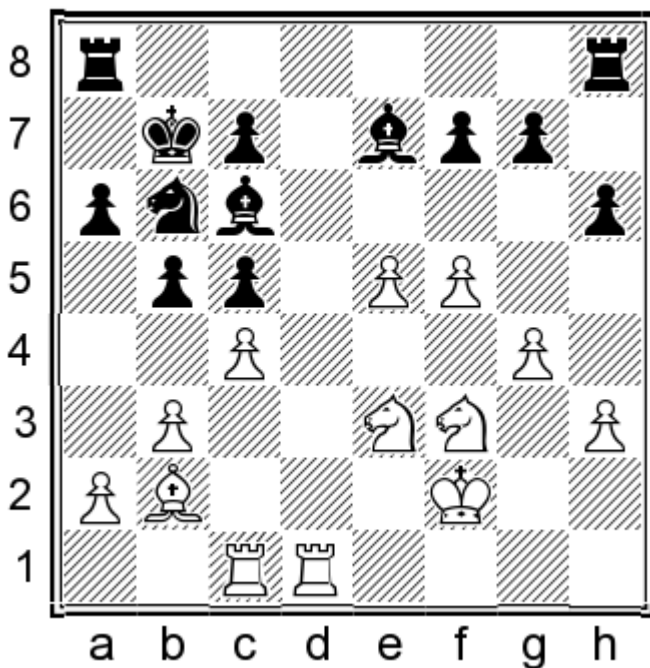
14...h6

14...Nc6 15.e6 (15.Bf4?! Nd4 16.Nc3 h6 17.Nge4 Bc6³) 15...f6 16.Nf3 h5
17.Nc3 Bd6 ∞ (17...Ne7 ∞)

15.Nf3 Nc6 16.Kf2 Nb4 17.Na3 Bc6 18.c3 Nd5 19.Nc2 b5 20.Ne3 Nb6
21.b3 Kb7

21...a5!? 22.c4 a4 23.cxb5 (23.Bb2 a3 24.Bc3 bxc4 25.bxc4 Ra4 26.e6 ∞)
23...Bxf3 24.Kxf3 axb3 25.Bb2 bxa2 26.Rd2 Be7 ∞

22.c4 a6 23.Bb2 Be7 24.Rac1



24.Nd5 Bxd5 25.cxd5 Rhd8 26.e6 f6 27.Nh4 Nxd5 28.Ng6 c6 29.Nxe7
Nxe7 ∞

24...h5! 25.g5

25.Nd5 hxg4 26.hxg4 Rh3 27.Kg2 Rah8 28.Rc3 Bd8 ∞

25...Bxf3 26.Kxf3 Bxg5 27.Rg1 Bh6 28.Rc2?!

28.e6 fxe6 (28...f6 29.Rc2²) 29.Bxg7 Bxg7 30.Rxg7 bxc4 (30...exf5 31.cxb5
axb5 32.Rxc5 Rhc8 33.Nxf5²) 31.Nxc4 Nxc4 32.Rxc4 exf5 33.Rxc5 Rac8
34.Rxf5 ∞

28...Rhd8 29.Ke4 Rd7 30.cxb5 axb5 31.Rxc5 Rxa2 32.Rc2

32.Rg2 Bxe3 33.Kxe3 Rd1 34.e6 fxe6 35.fxe6 Re1+ 36.Kf3 Rxe6 37.Rxb5³

32...Bxe3?!

32...Re7! 33.Ra1 Rxb2! 34.Rxb2 Nd7 35.Re2 Rxe5+ 36.Kf3 Nf6 μ

33.Kxe3 Nd5+ 34.Ke4 Nb4 35.Rcg2 Nd3?

35...Rd3 36.Bd4 Rxg2 37.Rxg2 Rxh3 38.e6 (38.Rxg7? Rh4+- +) 38...fxe6
39.fxe6 Kc6 40.Bxg7 = ; 35...Nc6 36.Ra1 Rd4+ 37.Bxd4 Rxg2 38.e6 fxe6
39.fxe6 Nxd4 40.Kxd4 Re2 41.Kd5 =

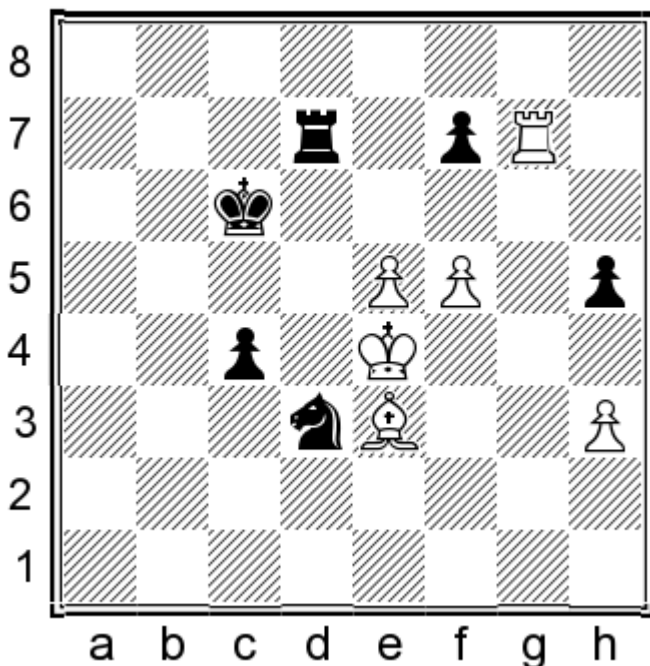
36.Bd4 Rxg2

¹36...Ra3 37.e6 fxe6 38.fxe6 Rd6 39.e7 Re6+ 40.Kxd3 Rxb3+ 41.Kc2 Rb4
42.Rd2 Rxe7 $\pm$

37.Rxg2 c5

37...Nb4 38.Rxg7 + -

38.Be3 c4 39.bxc4 bxc4 40.Rxg7 Kc6



41.Rh7

41.f6! c3 42.e6 fxe6 43.Rxd7 Kxd7 44.Kxd3 +- -

41...Nxe5

41...Nb4 42.Rh6+ Kc7 43.e6 fxe6 44.fxe6 Rd1 45.e7 Kd7 46.Rh8 Kxe7 47.Bc5+ +- -

42.Rh6+!

42.Kxe5?? f6+ =

1-0

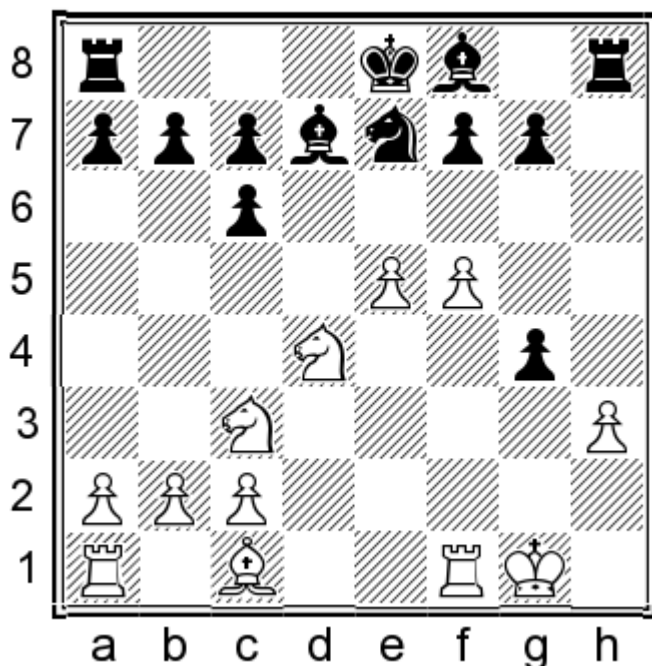
119. * C67

Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789) - Nakamura, Hikaru (2736)
chess24.com (Int.-m1/2-rapid) 148/119, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.O-O Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ke8 10.h3 Be6 11.g4 Ne7 12.Nd4 Bd7 13.f4

13.Re1 h5 14.e6 fxe6 15.Nxe6 Bxe6 16.Rxe6 hxg4 17.hxg4 Kd7 18.Re4 Nd5 19.Nxd5 cxd5 20.Re5 Rh4 21.Rg5N (21.Rxd5+ Bd6 22.Be3 = - 107/93) 21...Re8 22.Be3 Re4 23.Rxd5+ Ke6 24.Rad1 Rxd5 25.Kf1 Rh1+ 26.Ke2 Rxd1 27.Rxd1 Bd6 = Nepomniachtchi,I (2789)-Nakamura,H (2736) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/ (119) 2021

13...h5 14.f5 hxg4



15.e6!?N

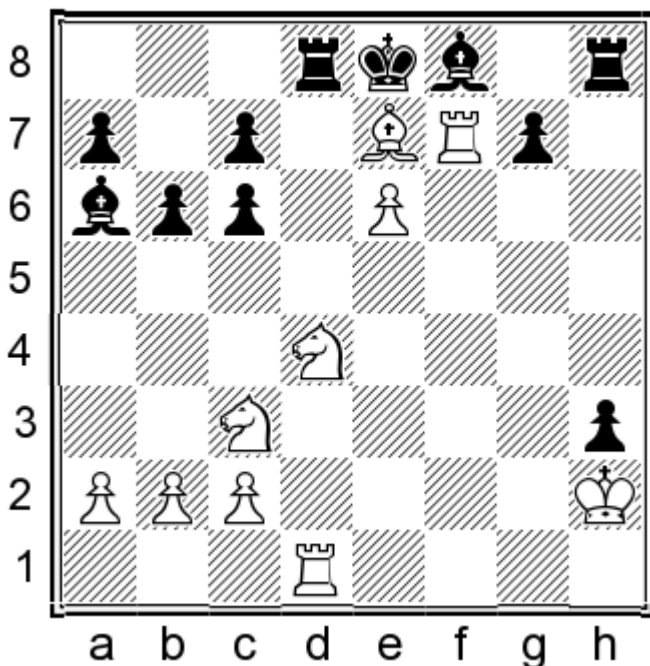
15.hxg4 Rh4 16.Rf4 Nd5 (16...c5 17.Nf3 Rh8 18.Be3 Bc6 19.Re1 b6 20.Kf2²)
17.Nxd5 cxd5 18.Be3 c5 19.Nf3 Rh6[∞] - 107/(93)

15...fxe6

15...Bc8 16.exf7+ (16.Ne4!? gxh3 17.Bg5 f6 18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Nxf6+ Kd8
20.Rad1 Nd5 21.c4[∞]) 16...Kxf7 17.hxg4 Rh4 18.Rf4 Nd5 19.Nxd5 cxd5
20.Nf3 Rh8 21.Kg2!? (21.Bd2 Bd6 22.Re1 Bxf4 23.Bxf4 Re8 24.Ng5+ Kf8
25.Nh7+ Kf7=) 21...Bd6 22.Rd4 Re8 23.Bf4! c5 (23...Bxf4 24.Rxf4 Re2+
25.Kg3f) 24.Bxd6 cxd4 25.Be5f

16.fxe6 Bc8 17.Bg5! gxh3 18.Kh2 Ng6?

18...b6! 19.Ne4 (19.Rad1 Ba6 20.Rf7 Rd8 21.Bxe7



21...Rxd4! (21...Bxe7?? 22.Rxe7+ Kxe7 23.Nxc6+ +-) 22.Rxd4 Bxe7 23.Rd7 Bd8 ∞) 19...Ba6 20.Rf7 Rd8 21.Nf5 (21.Rd1?! Bc8! (21...c5? 22.Bxe7! Rxd4 (22...Bxe7 23.Nc6 Rxd1 24.Rxe7+ Kf8 25.Rf7+ Ke8 26.Rxg7 +-)) 23.Rxd4 cxd4 24.Bxf8 Rh6 (24...Rxf8 25.Rxc7 +-)) 25.Ng5 Rxe6 26.Nxe6 Kxf7 27.Nxc7 +-)) 22.Bxe7 Rxd4! 23.Rxd4 Bxe7 24.Rxg7 Bxe6f; 21.c3 Rxd4! 22.cxd4 Bc4 ∞) 21...Nxf5 22.Bxd8 Kxd8 (22...Nd6 23.Rxc7 Nxe4 24.e7 g5 ∞) 23.Rxf5 Bc4 24.Rd1+ Ke8 25.Rf7 Rh4!? (25...Be7 26.Rxg7 Bxe6 27.Ng5 Bxg5 28.Rxg5 Rf8 29.Rd2 =) 26.Ng3 Bxe6 27.Rxc7 Rf4 28.Rd2 g5 29.Rxa7 Bg4 30.Rh7 Bc5 31.Nh5! (31.Rxh3 Bg1+ 32.Kxg1 Bxh3³) 31...Rf1 32.Kg3 Rg1+ 33.Kh2 Rf1 34.Kg3 =

19.Ne4 Rh5

19...Bd6+ 20.Nxd6+ cxd6 21.Rf7 Rh5 22.Rg1 Bxe6 23.Rxg7 Bf7 24.Rf1 Rxg5 25.Rxf7 ±

20.Rg1! a6

20...Bd6+ 21.Nxd6+ cxd6 22.Nf5 + -; ¹20...c5 21.Nb5 Bxe6 22.Nxc7+ Kd7 23.Nxa8 Bd5 24.Rae1! (24.Rad1?! Kc6 25.Rde1 Ne5 26.Rgf1 Bxe4 27.Rxe4 Bd6 28.Bc1 Nd3+ 29.Kh1 Nxc1 30.Rxc1 Rh8 31.Rg4 Rxa8 32.Rxg7²) 24...b5 25.Bc1 Ne5 26.Rgf1 Be7 27.Rd1 Kc6 28.Rxd5 Kxd5 29.Ng3 Ng4+ 30.Kh1 Rh8 31.Nc7+ Kc6 32.Ne6 ±

21.Rad1! Ne7

21...Be7 22.Bxe7 Nxe7 23.Rxg7 + -; 21...Ne5 22.Nb5 Nf3+ 23.Kh1 Rxg5
24.Nxc7+ Ke7 25.Nxg5 Nxg1 26.Nxa8 + -; 21...Bd6+ 22.Nxd6+ cxd6
23.Nf5 + -

22.Rdf1 c5

22...Rh8 23.Bxe7 Kxe7 (23...Bxe7 24.Rxg7 + -) 24.Rg6 (24.Rf7+ Ke8
25.Re1 + -) 24...Ke8 25.Nf5 + -

23.Rxf8+!

23.Rxf8+ Kxf8 24.Bxe7+ Kxe7 25.Rxg7+ + -

1-0

120. C67

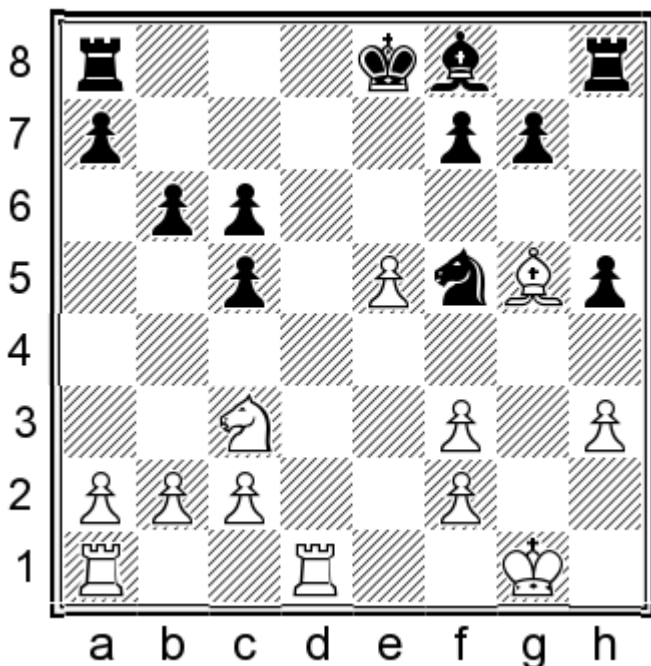
Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2767) - Wang, Hao (2762)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/120, 2021

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.O-O Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5
Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Ke8 10.Nc3 h5 11.Ne2 b6 12.Bg5 c5 13.Nc3**

13.Rad1 Bb7 14.Nc3 Bxf3 15.gxf3 c6 16.f4 Be7 17.Ne4 Bxg5 18.fxg5 Ke7
19.Nd6 Ke6 20.f4 Nxd6! (20...Rad8? 21.Rfe1 g6 22.Kf2 Nd4 23.c3 Nf5
24.Kf3 Ng7 (24...Nh4+ 25.Kg3 Nf5+ 26.Nxf5 gxf5 (26...Kxf5 27.e6 + -)
27.Rd6+! Rxd6 28.exd6+ Kxd6 29.Kh4 + -) 25.Rd2 Ke7 26.Red1 Rhg8 27.a4
a6 28.Nc4 Rxd2 29.Rxd2 b5 30.Na5 Rc8 31.Rd6 + - - 127/119) 21.Rxd6+ Kf5
22.Rxc6 (22.Rd7 Rhf8 23.Rc7 Rac8 24.Rxa7 Ra8 25.Rb7 Rab8 =) 22...Rac8
23.Rd6 Rhd8 =

13...Bb7 14.Rfd1 Bxf3 15.gxf3 c6



16.f4N

16.Rd3 Be7 17.Ne4 Rd8 18.Rad1 Rxd3 19.Rxd3 Bxg5 20.Nxg5 Ke7 =

16...Be7 17.Ne4 Bxg5

17...Rf8! (... f6) 18.Ng3 (18.Bxe7 Kxe7 19.Ng3 Nxg3 (19...Ke6 =) 20.fxg3 Rad8 21.Kf2 Rd5 =) 18...Bxg5 (18...Nxg3 19.Bxe7 Kxe7 20.fxg3 Rad8 21.Kf2 (21.f5? g6 22.g4 Rg8) 21...Rd5 =) 19.Nxf5 Bxf4 20.Nxg7+ Ke7 21.Nf5+ Ke6 22.Ng7+ Ke7 =

18.fxg5 Ke7 19.Nd6 Ke6 20.Rd3 Rhd8?!

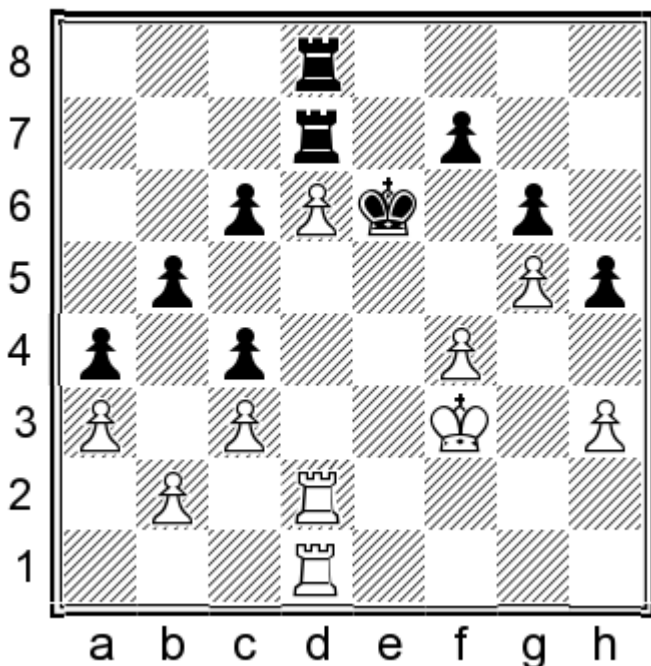
20...Nxd6! 21.exd6 Kd7 = 22.Rf3 f6 23.gxf6 gxf6 24.Rxf6 (24.Re1 Rae8 25.Rxe8 Rxe8 26.Kf1 Re6 27.Rf5 Rxd6 28.Ke2 Ke6 29.Rxh5 a5 =) 24...Raf8 =

21.Re1 a5 22.f4 c4

22...Rd7?? 23.Nxf5 +-

23.Rdd1 b5 24.Kf2 a4 25.a3 g6 26.Kf3

26.c3 Rab8 27.Kg2 (27.Rd2 Rd7 28.Red1 Rbd8 29.Kf3 Nxd6 30.exd6



30...f5! (30...Rxd6?? 31.Re1+ Kd7 32.Rxd6+ Kxd6 33.Rd1+ Kc7 34.Rxd8 Kxd8 35.Ke4 Ke7 36.Ke5 h4 37.f5 +-) 31.gxf6 Kxf6 =) 27...c5! 28.Kf3 b4! = (28...Nh4+? 29.Kg3 Nf5+ 30.Nxf5 gxf5 (30...Kxf5 31.e6 +-) 31.Rd6+! (31.Kh4? Rd3) 31...Rxd6 32.exd6+ Kxd6 33.Re5 +-) 29.axb4 cxb4 30.cxb4 Ra8! 31.Nxf5 (31.Nxc4 Rdb8@; 31.Kf2 h4 = (31...Rdb8 =)) 31...gxf5 = (31...Kxf5?? 32.e6 +-)

26...Ng7??

26...Rab8 27.Rd2 c5! 28.Red1 Nxd6 29.exd6 Kd7 30.Rd5 Kc6 31.d7 b4 = ; 26...c5! 27.Nxb5 (27.c3 b4 28.Nxc4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Rxd1 30.Rxd1 Rb8 =) 27...Rxd1 28.Rxd1 Rb8 29.Nc3 (29.Nc7+ Ke7 30.Nd5+ Ke6 31.Nc3 Rxb2) 29...Rxb2 30.Rd2 Nd4+ 31.Ke4 Rxc2 32.Rxc2 Nxc2 33.Nxa4 Nxa3 34.Nxc5+ Ke7 35.Kd4 h4! = 36.Kc3 Nb1+ 37.Kxc4 Nd2+ 38.Kd3 Nf3 39.Ke3 Ng1 40.Nd3 Nxh3 41.Kf3 Ke6 42.Kg2 Nxf4+ 43.Nxf4+ Kxe5 =

27.Rd2 +- - Ne8

27...Rd7 28.Red1 Rad8 29.Nxf7 +- -

28.Red1 Nc7 29.Nxb5 1-0

C75-C99

121. C78

Aronian, Levon (2781) - Carlsen, Magnus (2847)

chess24.com (Int.-m2/1-rapid) 148/121, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Bc5 6.c3 O-O 7.d4 Ba7 8.Bg5
exd4 9.e5 h6 10.Bh4 g5 11.Bxc6 dxc6

11...gxh4? 12.Ba4 Ne4 13.cxd4 ± - 142/123

12.Nxg5 dxc3 13.Qxd8 Rxd8 14.Nxc3 Nd5

14...Rd3 15.exf6 hxg5 16.Bxg5 ±

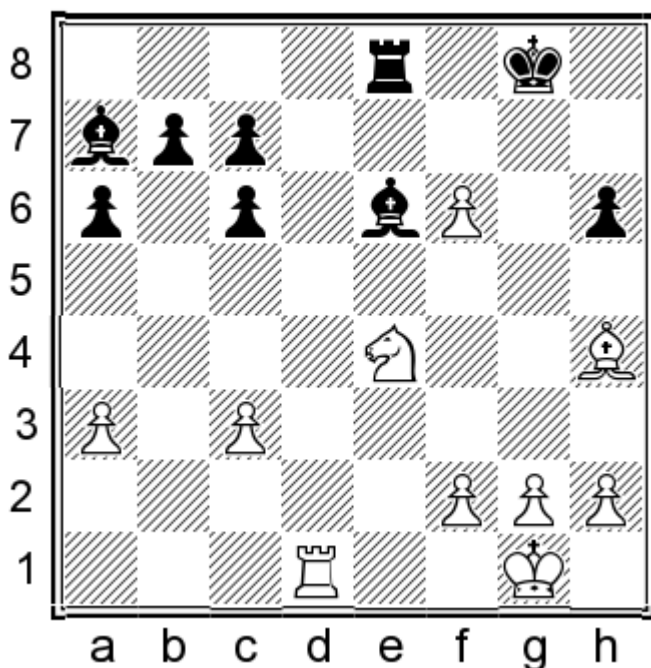
15.Nge4

15.Nxf7!? Re8 16.Nxh6+ Kg7 17.Bg5 Rxe5 18.h4 Nxc3 19.bxc3 Re2©

15...Nxc3 16.bxc3 Rd3 17.Rad1 Rxd1 18.Rxd1 Be6 19.a3

19.Nf6+ Kf8 20.Rd2 b5 21.Nd7+ Ke8 (21...Kg7 ∞) 22.Nf6+ Kf8 =

19...f5! 20.exf6 Re8



20...Bd5!? 21.Ng3 Bc5 22.Nf5 Bxa3 23.Nxh6+ Kh7 24.Nf5 a5 25.c4 Be6

26.Ng7 Bxc4 27.Rd7 Kg8 28.g4 a4 29.g5 Bf7 30.f4 Bf8 31.Nf5 (31.f5 a3- +)
31...a3 32.Ne7+ Kh7 33.Be1 a2 34.Bc3 a1=Q+ 35.Bxa1 Rxa1+ 36.Kf2©

21.h3?N

21.Kh1! Bd5 22.f3 a5 23.Re1 a4©

21...Bb3! 22.f7+

22.Re1 Bd5- +

**22...Kxf7 23.Rd7+ Kg6 24.Nd2 Re1+ 25.Kh2 Be6 26.Rd8 Re2 27.Nf3 Bxf2
28.Bxf2 Rxf2- + 29.Kg3 Rc2 30.Rd3 Bd5 31.Kf4 Kf6 32.g4 Rf2 33.h4 b5
34.Kg3 Rxf3+ 35.Rxf3+ Bxf3 36.Kxf3 c5 37.Ke4 c6 38.Kf4 a5 39.Ke4 a4
40.Kd3 Ke5 41.Ke3 b4 42.Kd2 b3 0-1**

122. *** C78

Moranda, Wojciech (2618) - Wojtaszek, Radoslaw (2694)

Polska (ch-m/1) 148/122, 2021

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Bc5 6.c3 b5 7.Bc2 d5 8.a4
dxe4 9.axb5 Bg4**

9...exf3 10.Qxf3 - 141/(115)

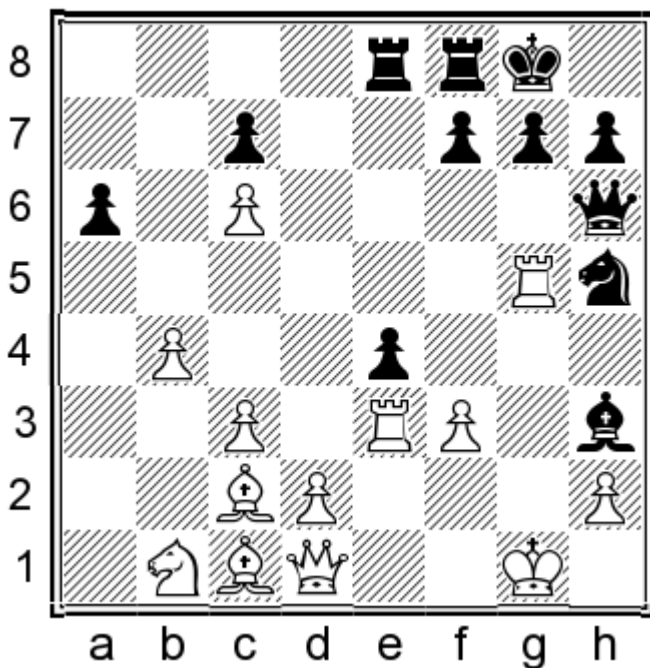
10.bxc6

10.Bxe4 - 80/ 357

10...exf3 11.gxf3 Bh3

11...Be6 - 128/116

**12.Re1 O-O 13.Ra5 Qd6 14.b4 Bxf2+ 15.Kxf2 e4 16.Kg1 Rae8 17.Re3 Nh5
18.Rg5 Qh6**



19.f4!?N

19.Rg3

19...Nxf4 20.Reg3 - 148/122

20.Rgg3N f5 21.Qe1? (21.d4 Bg4 22.Qf1 Nh5 23.Rg2 Nf4 =) 21...Bg4 22.d4 Nh3+ 23.Kh1 Qh5 24.Nd2 Ng5? Ikeda,J (2452)-Kuybokarov,T (2543) Canberra 148/(122) 2021 (24...Ng5 25.Rxg4! fxg4 26.Nxe4 Nh3 27.Qe2 Qd5 28.Bd3 Kh8 ∞; 24...f4! 25.Rxh3 Bxh3 26.Rxe4 Rxe4 27.Bxe4 Re8 28.Kg1 Qg4+ 29.Kf2 Qh4+ 30.Ke2 f3+- +)

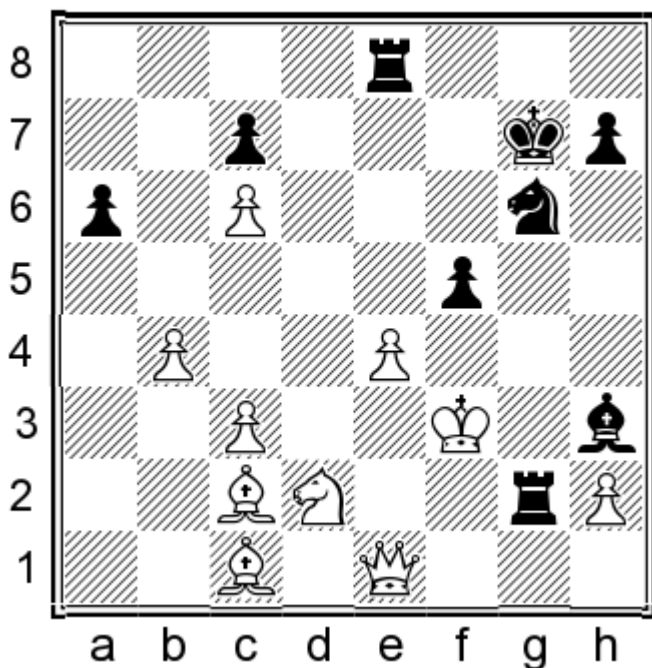
20...f5 21.Rxg7+ Qxg7N

21...Kh8!? - 148/(122) 22.c4 Qf6 23.Qe1 Bg4 24.Rxc7 Nh3+ 25.Kg2 Nf4+ 26.Kf2 Nd3+ 27.Bxd3 exd3 28.Re7 Rxe7 29.Bb2 Rxe1 30.Bxf6+ Rxf6 31.Kxe1 Rxc6 32.c5 Re6+?! - 148/(122) (32...a5!N 33.b5 Rxc5 34.Nc3 Rc4 35.Rxd3 Kg7 36.Rd7+ Kf6 37.Rxh7 Bf3 38.Ra7 Bh1 1/2 (38) Kudryavtsev,N-Vetter,G corr 148/(122) 2021 (38...Bh1 39.Rxa5 Rh4 40.Ke2 Rxh2+ 41.Kd3 f4 =)) 33.Re3 f4 34.Rxe6 Bxe6 35.c6 Kg7 36.Kf2 Kf6 37.Na3 Ke7 38.Kf3 Bd5+ 39.Kxf4 Bxc6 40.Ke5 Bg2 41.Nc4 ± Smith, M-Vivante-Sowter,J corr 148/(122) 2020

22.Rxg7+ Kxg7 23.Qe1 e3?!

23...Rf6! 24.Qe3 Rg6+ 25.Kf2 Rg4 26.Na3 Re6©

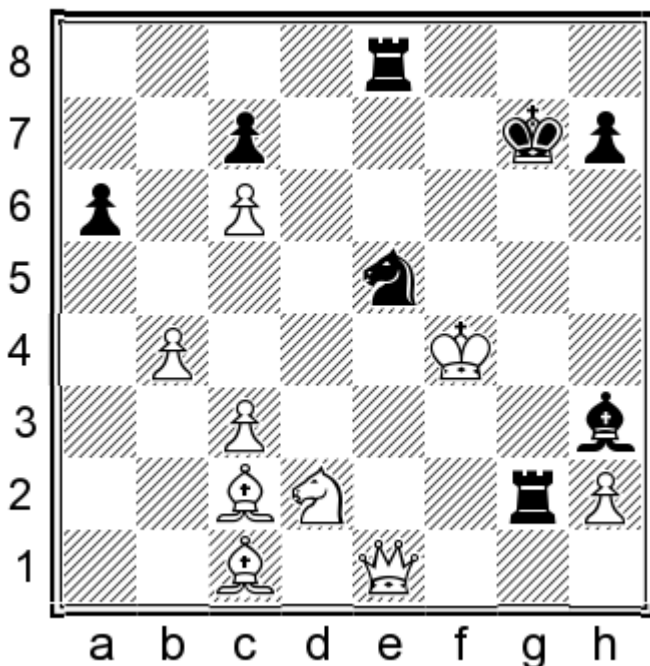
24.dxe3 Rf6 25.Kf2 Rg6 26.Nd2 Rg2+ 27.Kf3 Ng6 28.e4



28...Ne5??

28...f4! 29.Qh1 Kh6 30.Qxg2 Nh4+ 31.Kxf4 Nxe2+ 32.Kg3 Rg8+ 33.Kf2²

29.Ke3 +- f4+ 30.Kxf4 Ng4 31.e5 Nxe5



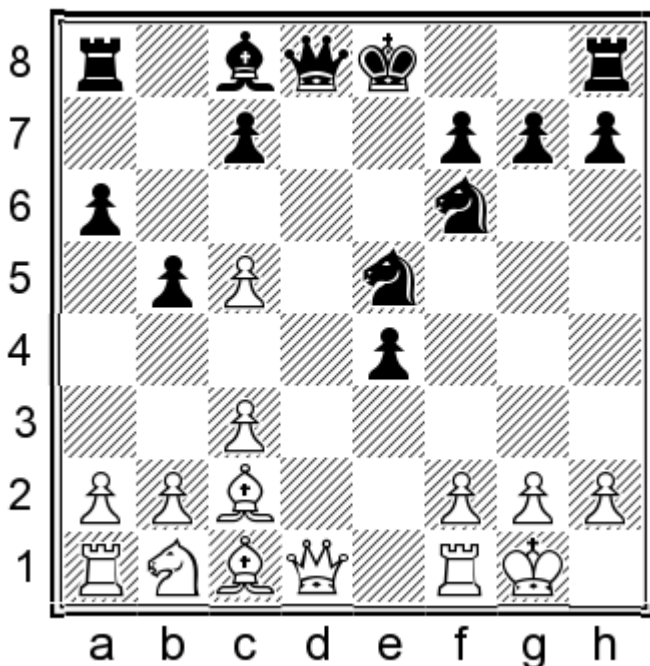
32.Qxe5+! Rxe5 33.Kxe5 Rxh2 34.Be4 Re2 35.Nf3 Bg2 36.Kd4 Rf2 37.Ng5 Bxe4 38.Nxe4 Rf1 39.Bg5 Kg6 40.Be7 h5 41.Nc5 a5 42.bxa5 h4 43.Bxh4 Rf4+ 44.Kd5 Rxh4 45.a6 Kf7 46.a7 Rh8 47.Na6 Ra8 48.Nxc7 Rxa7 49.Nb5 Ra5 50.c7 Rxb5+ 51.Kc4 1-0

123. ** C78

Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2760) - Aronian, Levon (2781)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/123, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Bc5 6.c3 b5 7.Bc2 d5 8.d4 dxe4 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.dxc5



10...Qe7

10...Bg4 - 141/115

10...Nd3 11.Bxd3 (11.Be3 - 141/(115); 11.Nd2 Nxc5 12.b4 e3 13.Qe2 O-O 14.Qxe3 Na4 ∞) 11...exd3N - 148/(123) (11...Qxd3 - 148/(123) 12.Bg5N (12.Qxd3) 12...Bf5 13.Bxf6 (13.Qc1 Qd5 14.Qf4 Qxc5 15.Nd2 Nh5 16.Nxe4 Qd5 17.Qh4 O-O ∞) 13...gxf6 14.Qxd3 exd3 15.Nd2 O-O-O 16.Rfe1 Rhe8³ Guliyev,N (2538)-Kollars,D (2598) tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(123) 2021) 12.Re1+ Be6 13.Re3 Qd5 14.Rxd3 Qxc5 = Vachier Lagrave,M (2784)-Aronian,L (2781) chess24.com (Int.-m2/2-rapid) 148/(123) 2021

11.Nd2N

11.Bg5 Bb7 12.Nd2 O-O-O 13.Qe2 Nd3 ∞

11...Bb7 12.Qe2 Ng6 13.Nb3 O-O 14.a4 Rab8

14...Bd5!? 15.axb5 axb5 16.Rxa8 Rxa8 17.Qxb5 Ne5 18.Bf4 (18.Nd2 Neg4 ∞) 18...Bc4 19.Qb7 Bd5 20.Qb4 (20.Qb5 =) 20...Nc6 21.Qb5 Rb8 22.Qa4 Ne5 ∞

15.axb5 axb5 16.Nd4

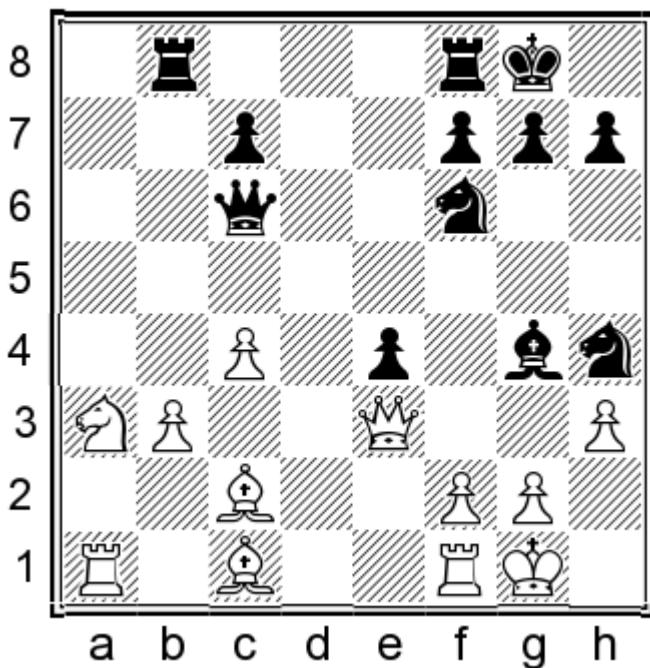
16.Ra5 Bd5 17.Rxb5 Rxb5 18.Qxb5 Ne5 ∞

16...Bd5 17.Nxb5 Qxc5 18.Na3 Qc6 19.c4 Be6 20.b3 Nh4 21.Qe3

21.Bg5? Bg4 22.Qe3 Nxc2! 23.Kxg2 Bf3+ 24.Kg1 Qe6 25.Qf4 Nh5 26.Qh4 h6-+; 21.Nb5 Bg4 22.Bxe4 Bxe2 (22...Qxe4 23.Qxe4 Nxe4 24.f3 Bxf3 25.gxf3 Nc5∞) 23.Bxc6 Bxf1 24.Kxf1 ∞

21...Bg4 22.Bd1

22.h3?



22...Bf3! 23.gxf3 Nxf3+ 24.Kg2 Rfe8 25.Rh1 (25.Bb2 Nd5! 26.cxd5 Qg6+ 27.Kh1 Qd6-+) 25...Rbd8 26.Nb5 Nh5μ

22...Qe6

¹22...Bxd1 23.Rxd1 Rfd8 24.Rxd8+ (24.Bb2 Rd3 25.Qg5 Rxb3 26.Qxh4 Rxb2 27.Rxd3 exd3 28.Qd4 Rd2³) 24...Rxd8 25.Bb2 (25.Qe2 e3! 26.f3 Ng4! 27.Bxe3 Nxe3 28.Qxe3 Qg6 29.Qe2 h5³) 25...Rd3 26.Qg5 Rxb3 27.Bxf6 Qxf6 28.Qxf6 gxf6³

23.h3 Bf3

23...Bxd1 24.Rxd1 Nf5 25.Qc3 h6 ∞

24.Bxf3

24.gxf3 Qxh3 (24...Rxb3! 25.Qg5TM (25.Qxb3?? Qxh3-+) 25...Nxf3+ 26.Bxf3 Rxf3 27.Bb2 Rf5 28.Qg2 h6©) 25.Qg5 Nxf3+ 26.Bxf3 exf3 27.Qg3 Qf5 28.Qg5 Qh3 =

24...Nxf3+

24...exf3 25.Qxe6 fxe6 26.g3 Nf5 27.Bf4 Rxb3 28.Bxc7 Ne4 ∞

25.gxf3 Rxb3!

25...Qxh3? 26.fxe4 + -

26.Qxb3

26.Qg5?! h6 27.Qh4 Ra8 28.Nc2 Rxa1 29.Nxa1 Rxf3³

26...Qxh3 27.Nc2 exf3 28.Ne1 Qg4+ 29.Kh1 Qh3+ 30.Kg1 Qg4+ 31.Kh1 Qh3+ 32.Kg1 1/2-1/2

124. * C81

Kosteniuk, Alexandra (2474) - Girya, Olga (2451)

Russia 148/124, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5 8.dxe5 Be6 9.Qe2 Nc5

9...Be7 10.Rd1 O-O 11.c4 bxc4 12.Bxc4 Bc5 13.Be3 Bxe3 14.Qxe3 Qb8 15.Bb3 Na5 16.Nbd2 Qa7 17.Qxa7 Rxa7 18.Rac1 c5 19.Ba4 (19.Nxe4 Nxb3 20.axb3 dxe4 21.Nd2 e3! 22.fxe3 Rb7 = - 2/252) 19...Nxd2 20.Nxd2 Nc4N (20...Rc8) 21.Nxc4 dxc4 = Moranda,W (2618)-Heberla,B (2556) Polska (ch-m/1) 148/(124) 2021

10.Rd1 Nxb3 11.axb3

11.cxb3!? - 129/124

11...Be7 12.c4 b4!

12...O-O 13.Nc3 (13.cxd5 Bxd5 14.Nc3 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Qc8 16.Nd5 Re8 17.f4 ∞) 13...Nb4 14.Nd4 c6 15.cxd5 cxd5 16.Be3²

13.Nbd2

13.cxd5 Bxd5 14.Qd3 Be4! 15.Qe2 Bd5 16.Qd3 (16.Rxa6 Rxa6 17.Qxa6 O-O 18.Qb5 (18.Qd3 Qc8³) 18...Bc4! 19.Rxd8 Bxb5 20.Rxf8+ Kxf8³) 16...Be4 = ; 13.Bg5 Bxg5 14.cxd5 Bxd5 15.Nxg5 Qxg5 16.Rxd5 O-O 17.Nd2 Rad8 =

13...O-O 14.Nf1 Qd7 15.h3

15.Bg5 Rfd8 16.h3 (16.Ne3 d4 17.Nd5 Bxd5 (17...Bxg5 18.Nxg5 Bxd5 19.cxd5 Qxd5 20.Qd3 g6 21.f4 ∞) 18.cxd5 Qxd5 19.Bxe7 Nxe7 20.Rxd4 Qxb3 21.Rxa6 ∞) 16...h6 17.cxd5 Bxd5 18.Ne3 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 Qe6 20.Bxe7 Nxe5 21.Qe4 Qxe7 22.Rxd8+ Rxd8 23.Rxa6 =

15...Rfd8 16.Ng5?!

16.cxd5 Bxd5 17.Bg5 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Qe6 =

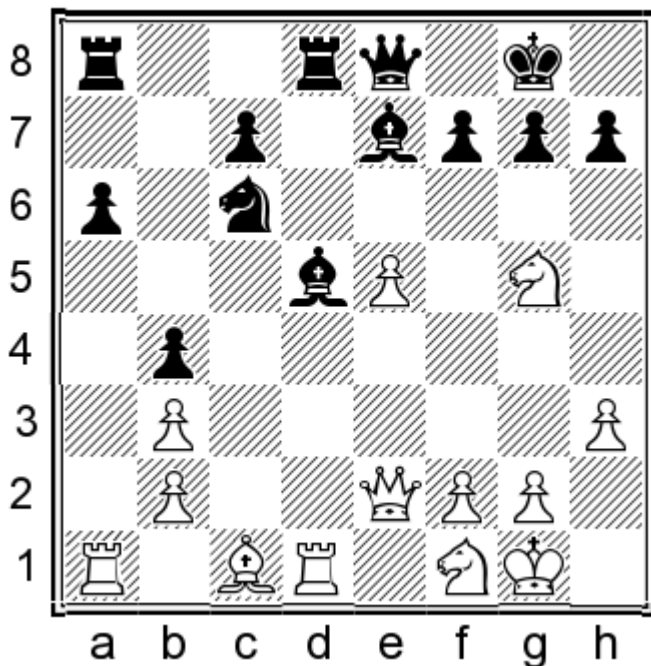
16...Qe8?!

16...h6 17.Nxe6 Qxe6 18.cxd5 Rxd5 19.Rxd5 Qxd5 20.Rxa6 Rxa6 21.Qxa6 Nxe5³

17.cxd5?!

17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.cxd5 Rxd5 19.Rxd5 exd5 20.f4 ±

17...Bxd5



18.Qc2N

18.Rxd5 Rxd5 19.Qe4 Bxg5 20.Qxd5 Rd8 21.Qe4 Rd1 22.f4 Bh4 23.Qe2 Qd7 24.Kh2 ∞

18...Bxg5?!

18...g6 19.Bf4 (19.Ne3!? Bxb3 20.Qxb3 Bxg5 21.Nd5 Qxe5 22.Bxg5 (22.f4? Nd4!) 22...Qxg5 23.f4 Qh4 24.Qe3©) 19...Nxe5! 20.Ne3 Bc6 21.Nxh7 (21.Ne4 Nd3! 22.Rxd3 Bxe4 23.Rxd8 Bxd8 24.Qc4 ∞) 21...Nf3+ 22.gxf3 Kxh7 ∞

19.Bxg5 Rd7 20.Ne3 Be6 21.Rxd7 Bxd7

21...Qxd7 22.Rd1 Qe8 23.f4 + -

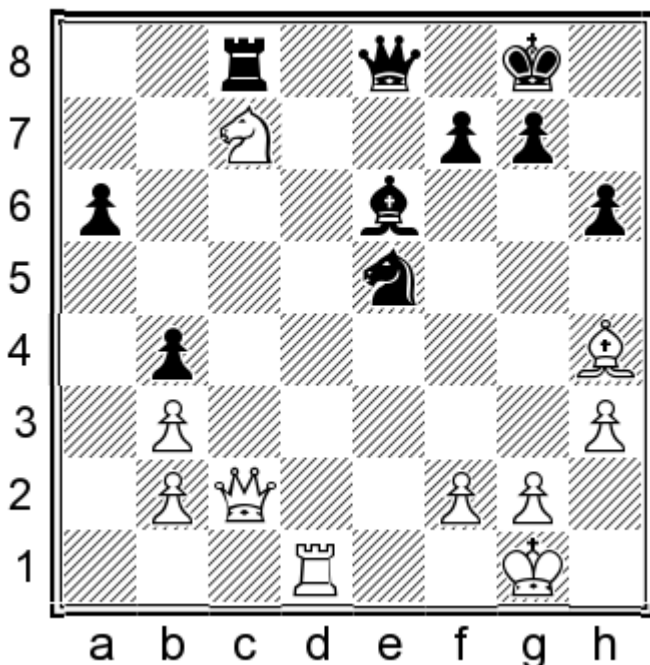
22.Rd1 h6 23.Bh4 Nxe5

23...Be6? 24.f4 +-

24.Nd5 Be6?

24...Ng6 25.Bg3 (25.Nxc7 Rc8 26.Bg3 Qe7 - 25.Bg3) 25...Rc8 26.Nxc7 Qe7
27.Qd3 Bc6 28.Nxa6 Qb7 (28...h5²) 29.Nc5 Qa8 30.Nd7 Qb7 31.f3²

25.Nxc7! Rc8



26.Rd8! Rxd8 27.Nxe8 Rxe8 28.Bg3 Rc8 29.Qe2 Nc6 30.Qxa6 Nd4 31.Bd6
Nxb3 32.Bxb4 Re8 33.Bc3 f6 34.g4 Bf7 35.h4 Nc5

35...Re4 36.Qa8+ Re8 37.Qf3 Nc1 38.Bxf6! gxf6 39.Qxf6 +-

36.Qc6 Ne6

36...Ne4 37.b4 Nxc3 38.Qxc3 Re5 39.Qc6 Be8 40.Qc8 Kf8 41.f4 Rb5 42.h5
Ke7 43.Kf2 +-

37.Qf3 Nc7 38.Bd2 Rb8 39.b4! Nd5 40.Qd3 Nxb4 41.Qd6 Rc8 42.Bxb4
Rc4 43.f3 1-0

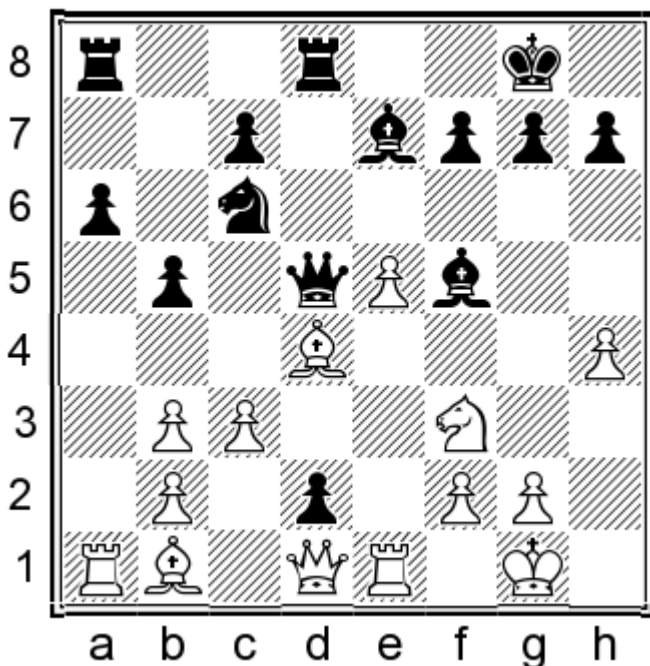
125. C83

Svane, Rasmus (2613) - Wagner, Dennis (2581)

Magdeburg 148/125, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5

8.dxe5 Be6 9.c3 Be7 10.Nbd2 Nc5 11.Bc2 d4 12.Nb3 d3 13.Bb1 Nxb3
14.axb3 Bf5 15.Be3 O-O 16.Bd4 Qd5 17.Re1 Rfd8 18.h4 d2



18...Nxd4 - 143/113

19.Bxf5N

19.Qxd2 Bxb1 20.Raxb1 Qxb3 21.e6 fxe6 22.Qf4 e5! 23.Nxe5 Nxd4 24.cxd4 Bb4 25.Re4 Re8∞; 19.Re2 Bxb1 20.Rxb1 Nxd4 21.Nxd4 Bxh4 22.Nf3 Be7 23.Rxd2 Qe4=

19...dxe1=Q+ 20.Qxe1 Qxb3 21.Qe4?

21.e6 Nxd4 (21...Rd6 22.Bc5 Rxe6 23.Bxe6 Qxe6 24.Qxe6 fxe6 25.Bxe7 Nxe7 26.Nd4=) 22.Nxd4 Rxd4! 23.cxd4 g6 24.exf7+ Kxf7∞; 21.h5!? g6 22.Be4 Qe6 23.Qe3©

21...Nxd4 22.Nxd4 Qxb2 23.Rf1 Qxc3

23...g6 24.e6 Qxc3 25.exf7+ Kf8 26.Nc6 Bf6 27.Nxd8 Rxd8μ

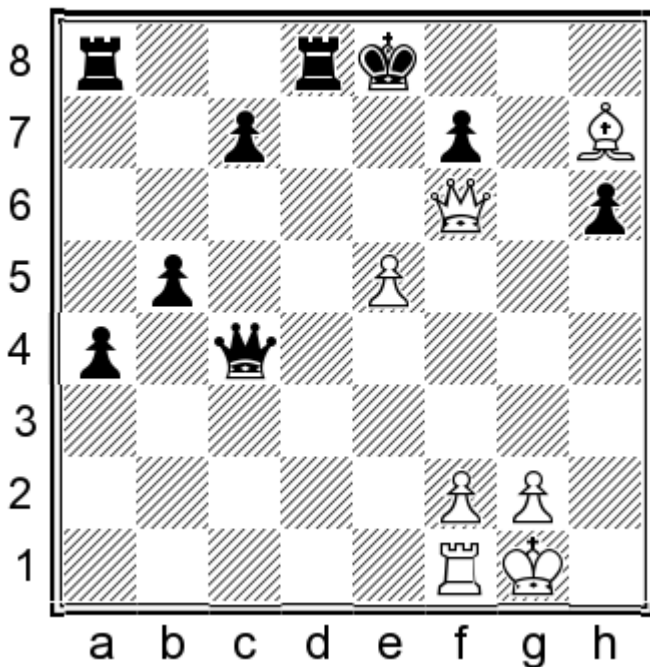
24.Nc6 Kf8 25.Bxh7 a5 26.h5 a4?

26...Re8! 27.Bf5! (27.Nxe7 Kxe7 28.h6 g6 29.Qf4 Ra6-+; 27.h6 Bg5 28.hxg7+ Kxg7 29.Bf5 Rh8 30.Qg4 Qxc6 31.Qxg5+ Kf8 32.e6 Qd6! 33.Bh3 Rxh3 34.gxh3 Qxe6-+) 27...Bd6 28.Bd7 Kg8 29.h6 Bxe5 (29...g6 30.g3! a4 31.Kg2∞) 30.f4 (30.g3 Qc5μ) 30...Bxf4 31.Qxf4 Qe3+ 32.Rf2 Qxf4 33.Rxf4

Re2μ

27.h6! = gxh6

27...Qc4? 28.Qf3! gxh6 (28...Bg5 29.Bd3! Rxd3 (29...Qh4 30.e6 Bf6 31.Nxd8 Rxd8 32.h7 fxe6 33.Rc1 +-) 30.h7 Qh4 31.Qxd3 +-) 29.Nxe7 Kxe7 30.Qf6+ Ke8



31.Bg6!! Ra6 (31...fxg6 32.e6 Rd7 33.Re1! +-) 32.e6 Qxe6 33.Bxf7+ Qxf7 34.Re1+ Kf8 35.Qxd8+ Kg7 36.Re7 +-; 27...Bg5? 28.e6 Re8 29.Bg6! gxh6 30.Bxf7 +-

28.Nxe7 Kxe7 29.Qh4+ Ke8

29...Kd7 30.Be4 c6 (30...Rab8 31.Qf6 ∞) 31.Qf4 ∞

30.Qf6 Rab8 31.Qh8+ Ke7 32.Qf6+ Ke8 33.Bg6 fxg6 34.Qxg6+ Kf8 35.Qxh6+ Kg8 36.Qg5+ Kf8 37.Rc1 Qd2 38.Qf6+ Ke8 39.Qe6+ Kf8 40.Qf6+ Ke8 41.Qe6+ Kf8 42.Qf5+ Ke7 43.Rxc7+ Rd7 44.Qf6+ Ke8 45.Qh8+ Ke7 46.Qh4+ Ke8 47.Qh8+ Ke7 48.Qf6+ Ke8 49.Qh8+ 1/2-1/2

126. C85

Giri, Anish (2763) - Ding, Liren (2805)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/126, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Be7 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.d3 Bd6

7...Nd7 - 119/114

8.Nbd2 Be6 9.Nb3 Qe7

9...O-O 10.Na5 Rb8 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4 Qe7 ∞

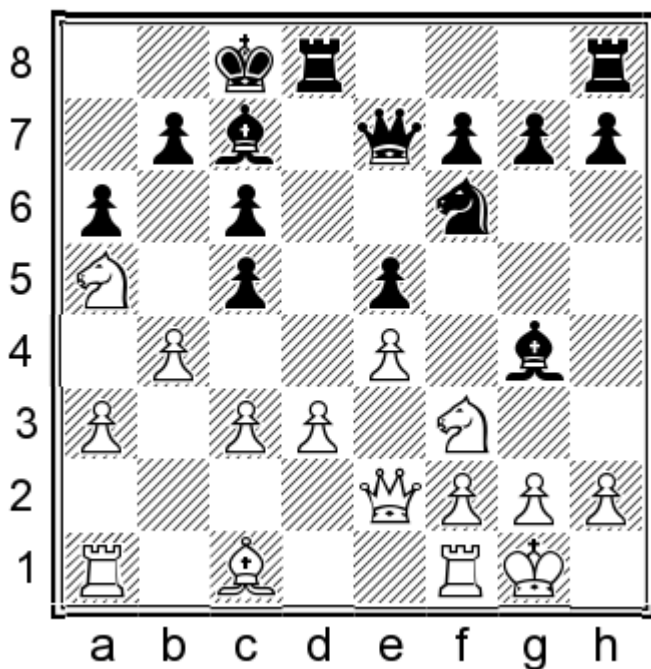
10.Na5 O-O-ON

10...Rb8 11.h3 h6 12.Be3 Nd7 13.Nd2 Nf8 14.Ba7 Ra8 15.Be3 b6 16.Nac4
(16.Nb7!?) 16...c5 17.Qh5 b5 18.Nxd6+ cxd6 19.a4 b4 20.c3 a5 21.d4 Ng6
22.d5 Bc8 23.cxb4 axb4 24.Nc4 O-O =

11.Qe2!/?

11.a3

11...Bg4 12.c3 c5 13.a3 c6 14.b4 Bc7



15.Nb3?!/

15.Nc4! Nd7 (15...b5 16.Ne3 Bh5 17.a4 ±) 16.a4 f5 (16...cxb4 17.cxb4 Qxb4
18.Ba3 Qc3 19.Rab1 +-) 17.b5! axb5 18.axb5 cxb5 19.Ne3 Nb6 20.Nxf5 ±

15...Nd7 16.h3 Bh5 17.Be3 f5

17...c4!? 18.dxc4 f5 19.Nc5 (19.Nbd2 f4 20.Ba7 g5 ∞) 19...f4 20.Nxd7 Rxd7
21.Ba7™ g5 ∞ (21...Rhd8 ∞)

18.Bxc5

18.exf5? c4! 19.Nbd2 cxd3 20.Qxd3 Bxf3 21.gxf3 g6μ

18...Qf7 19.Rab1?!

19.Nbd2 Nxc5 (19...g5 20.exf5 Qxf5 21.Qe4 Qf6 22.Qe3 ∞) 20.bxc5 Qd7
21.Nc4 Qxd3 22.Qxd3 Rxd3 23.Nfxe5 Rxc3 24.exf5 Bxe5 25.Nxe5 Rxc5
26.Rfe1 ∞

19...g5 20.exf5

20.Nxg5?? Qg6 21.Nf3 Rhg8- +

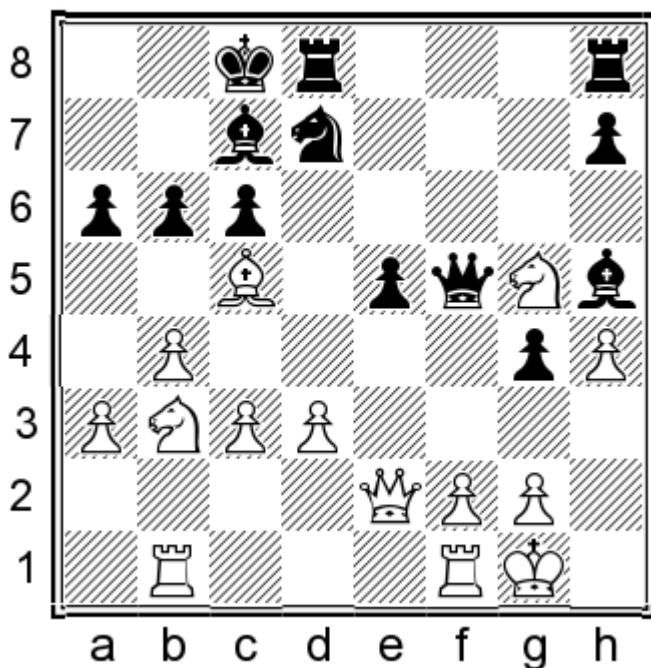
20...g4?

20...Qxf5 21.Qe4 (21.g4?? Bxg4 22.hxg4 Qxg4+ 23.Kh1 e4 24.Qxe4
(24.dxe4 Qh3+ 25.Kg1 g4- +) 24...Qh3+ 25.Kg1 g4- +) 21...Qf6 22.Nfd2
(22.a4 Bg6 23.Qe2 h5 24.b5 g4 25.Nfd2 gxh3μ) 22...Bg6 23.Qe2 g4! 24.hxg4
h5 25.g5 (25.Ne4 Bxe4 26.g5 Bxd3 27.Qxd3 Qxg5μ) 25...Qxg5 26.Ne4 Bxe4
27.Qxe4 Nf6 28.Qf3 Rhg8³

21.Ng5! Qxf5

21...gxh3 22.Nxf7 Bxe2 23.Nxd8 Bxd8 24.Rfe1 Bxd3 25.Rb2 ±

22.h4 b6



22...Nxc5 23.Nxc5 Bb6 24.Nge4 + -

23.Ne4! bxc5 24.bxc5 Nf6

24...Nb8 25.Qb2 Kd7 26.Nbd2 Ke7 (26...Bf7 27.Qb7 Bd5 28.Nd6 + -) 27.Nc4
Rxd3 28.Ncd6 Bxd6 (28...Qe6 29.Qe2 Rd5 30.Rb7 + -) 29.cxd6+ Kf7 30.Qe2
Rd5 31.c4 Rd4 32.Ng3 + -; 24...g3 25.Qb2 + -

25.Nd6+ Bxd6 26.cxd6 Rxd6 27.d4 c5

27...exd4 28.Qxa6+ Kd8 29.Nxd4 Rxd4 30.cxd4 + -

28.Nxc5 Re8 29.Qc4 1-0

D00-D24

127. ** D02

Aronian, Levon (2781) - Karjakin, Sergey (2757)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/127, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Bf4 Bf5 4.c4 e6

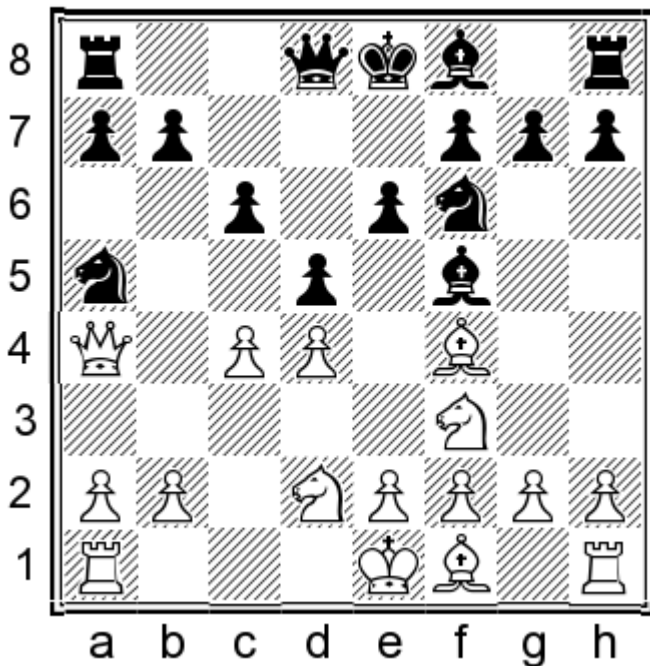
4...dxc4 - 29/406

5.Qb3 Nc6 6.Nbd2 Na5N

6...Bb4 - 148/(127) 7.a3 dxc4 8.Qxc4 Bxd2+ 9.Bxd2 Be4N (9...O-O) 10.e3 O-O 11.Be2 Bd5 12.Qc2 Be4 13.Qc1 Re8 14.O-O e5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.dxe5 Rxe5 17.Bc3 Rd5 18.f3 (18.Re1!? c6 (18...Bd3? 19.e4! Bxe4 20.Bc4 +-) 19.f3 Bd3 20.e4 Rd7 21.Bd1 ±) 18...Bd3 19.Qe1 Bxe2 20.Qxe2² Aronian,L (2781)- Nakamura,H (2736) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(127) 2021

6...Be7 - 148/(127) 7.e3 O-O 8.c5 Rb8 9.Bb5 Ne4N (9...Nh5 10.Qa4 Nxf4 11.exf4 Qc8 12.O-O Bf6 13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.b3 Qb7 15.Rac1 Qb5 16.Qxb5 Rxb5 17.Rfe1 a5 18.h3 h5 =) 10.Qa4? (10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.Nd2 g5 12.Bg3 h5 13.h4 gxh4 14.Bf4 ∞) 10...Nxd2 (10...g5! 11.Bg3 h5 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Nxe4 dxe4 14.Ne5 h4 15.Nxc6 Qd7 16.Be5 f6 17.Bxc7 Qxc7 18.Nxb8 Rxb8 19.b4 h3 20.g3 Bg4f) 11.Kxd2 f6 ∞ Aronian,L (2781) -Nakamura,H (2736) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(127) 2021

7.Qa4+ c6



8.cxd5?!

8.c5 Δb5 9.Qb4 Nc4 10.a4 a5 11.Qb3 Nxd2 12.Nxd2 b4 13.f3f

8...b5 9.Qd1 exd5 10.g3 Nc4 11.b3 Nxd2 12.Bxd2 Be4?

12...Ba3! 13.Nh4 Bd7 14.Qc2 O-O 15.Bg2 Re8 16.O-O a5³

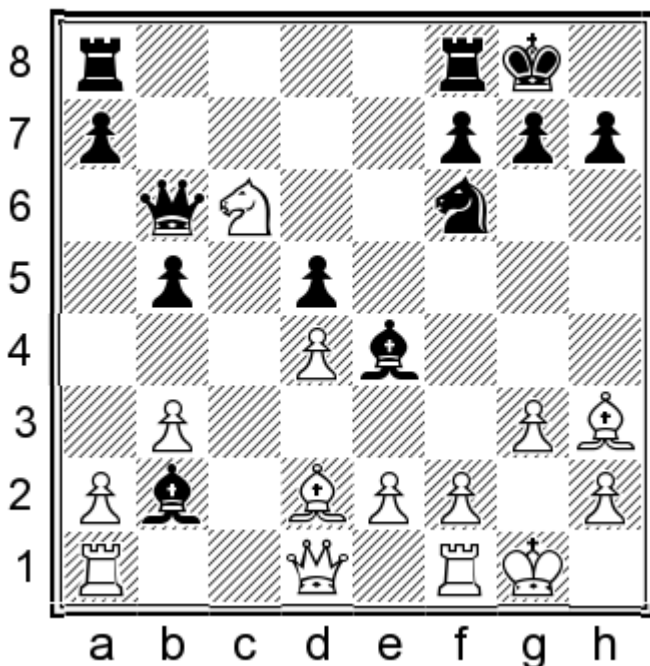
13.Bh3! Ba3 14.O-O O-O

14...Bb2 15.Ne5

15.Ne5 Bb2?!

15...c5 16.dxc5 Bxc5 17.Bg5 Re8 18.Nd7 Be7 19.Nxf6+ Bxf6 20.Bxf6 Qxf6
21.Bd7 Re7 22.Bxb5 h5 23.Bd3²

16.Nxc6 Qb6



17.Rc1! Bxc1 18.Qxc1 Rfe8 19.Ba5

19.Re1!? h6 20.f3 Bh7 (20...Bb1 21.a3 Ba2 22.Na5 Qxd4+ 23.Kf1 ± × Ba2)
21.Kf2! Kh8 22.Qc5 ±

19...Qb7?!

19...Qa6! 20.f3 Bb1! 21.Qxb1 (21.Qc3 b4! 22.Bxb4 Qxa2,,) 21...Qxc6

20.f3 Bg6 21.Ne5 ± b4 22.Qd2 Rab8 23.Rc1 h6 24.Nc6 Ra8 25.Bxb4

25.Kf2 +- ... Qb4

25...Nd7

¹25...Nh7 26.Kf2 f6 27.Bf1 ±

26.Na5 Qa6 27.Bxd7 Rxe2 28.Rc6 Rxd2 29.Rxa6 Rxa2 30.Rd6 Kh7

30...Rb8 31.Be1 Ra1 32.Kf2 +-

31.Rxd5 Rb8 32.Rb5 Ra1+ 33.Kf2 Ra2+ 34.Ke3 1-0

128. ** D02

Firouzja, Alireza (2759) - So, Wesley (2770)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/128, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.Nbd2 Qb6

5...Bg4 - 147/126

5...cxd4 - 147/127, 128

6.dxc5 Qxb2 7.Rb1 Qc3 8.Bb5 e6 9.O-O Be7 10.e4 O-O 11.e5 Nd7 12.Nb3
[... Bd2+-] **12...Qb4**

12...Ndxe5?? 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Bd2 +- -

13.Nfd4

13.Nbd4 Qxc5 14.Re1 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 a6 16.Bd3©

13...Nxd4™

13...Nxe5? 14.c3 Qa3 15.Bc1 Qxa2 16.Rb2 +-; 13...Nxc5? 14.c3 Qxc3
15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Rc1 +-; 13...Ndxe5? 14.c3 Qxc3 15.Bd2 +- -

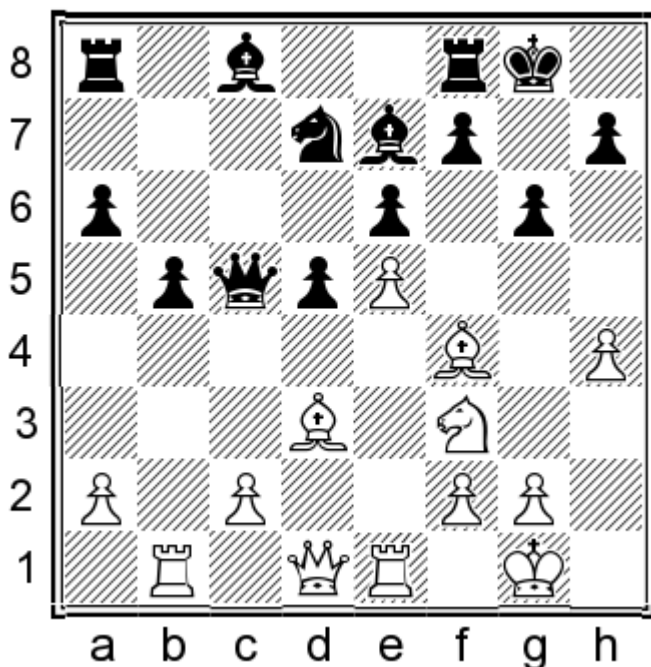
14.Nxd4 Qxc5 15.Re1 a6

15...Rd8 16.h4!©

16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3

17.Nb3!?!©

17...b5 18.h4



18.Qd2!?

18...Bb7N

18...f6 - 148/(128) 19.h5N (19.Bh6 Nxe5 (19...fxe5!?) 20.Bxf8 Kxf8 21.Rxe5 fxe5 22.Nxe5 Bf6 23.Qf3 Ke7 24.Qf4 Qc3 25.Ng4 Bg7 26.Qg5+ Kd7 27.Qf4 Ke7 =) 19...Nxe5 20.Bxe5 fxe5 21.Rxe5 Bf6 22.Qd2 Ra7 23.Rbe1 Bxe5 24.Rxe5 Rf6 25.Qg5 Qf8 26.Re2 h6 27.Qe3 d4 28.Nxd4 Qc5 =
Hoepfenstein,M-Perez Lopez,A corr 148/(128) 2020

18...d4 - 148/(128) 19.Be4 Ra7 20.Rc1 Rc7 21.h5 Bb7 22.Bxb7 Rxb7 23.Re4 (23.Bg5 Bxg5 24.Nxg5 Qd5 25.Nf3 gxh5 =) 23...Nb6 24.Rxd4 Rbb8 25.c3 Rfd8 26.Ng5 Rxd4 27.cxd4 Qd5 = Siburian,C-Ramos,F corr 148/(128) 2020

19.Ng5

19.a4

19...Bxg5 20.Bxg5 d4! 21.f4?!

21.Bd2!?!; 21.Qe2

21...Qc6?!

21...Bd5μ; 21...h5!?

22.Qg4?!

22.Be4 Qb6 23.Bxb7 Qxb7 24.Rb4 (24.h5!?) 24...Nb6 (24...d3!?) 25.Rxd4 Rac8 =

22...h5 23.Qg3 Nc5!μ 24.Bf6

24.f5!?

24...Kh7 25.Bf1?!

25.Kh2; 25.Re2

25...Ne4 26.Rxe4

26.Qd3 Rac8- +

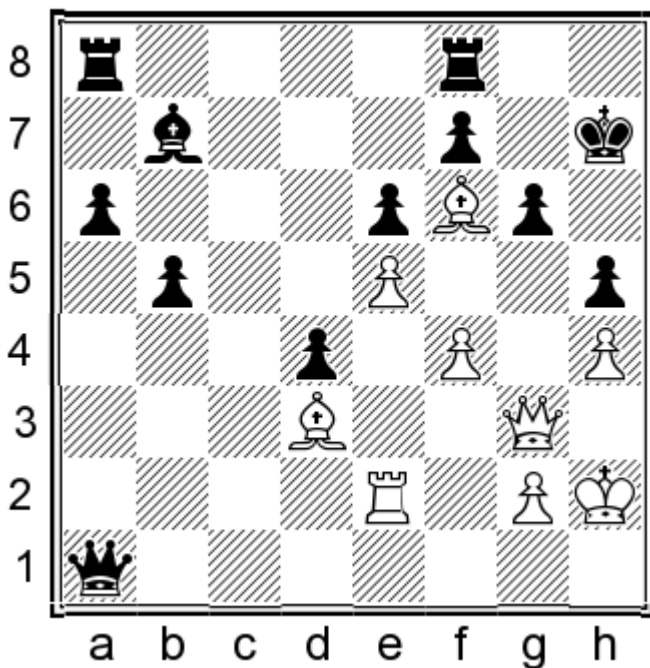
26...Qxe4- + 27.Re1

27.Bd3 Qe3+™ (27...Qd5?? 28.Qg5 + -) 28.Qxe3 dxe3

27...Qxc2 28.Bd3 Qxa2?!

28...Qc3

29.Re2 Qa1+ 30.Kh2



30...Qd1! 31.Re1 Qd2

31...Qg4 32.Qxg4 hxg4 33.h5 Rac8- +

32.Re2 Qd1 33.Re1 Qd2?

33...Qg4

34.Re2 Qd1 1/2-1/2

129. * D10

Prusikin, Michael (2547) - Dragnev, Valentin (2565)
tornelo.com (Internet) 148/129, 2021

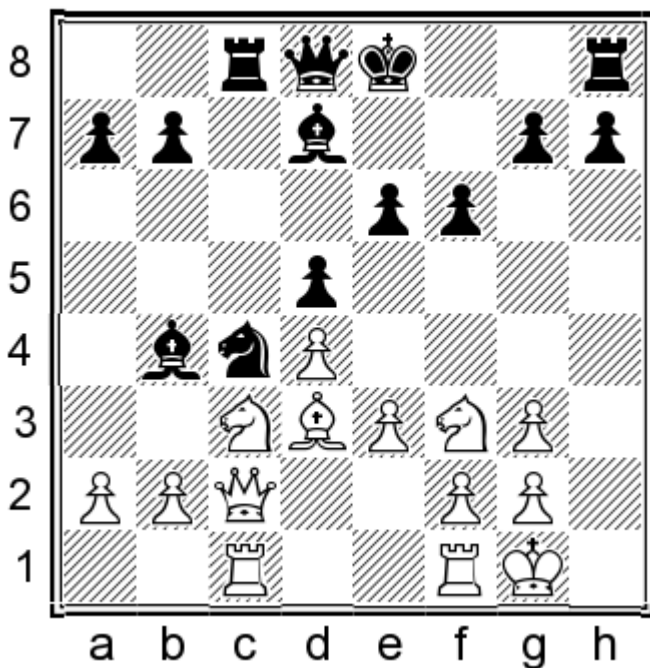
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Bf4 Nc6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bf5 7.Qb3 Na5
8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qc2 e6 10.Bd3 Rc8 11.Nf3 Bb4 12.O-O Nh5

12...O-O - 118/111

13.Be5 f6 14.Bg3 Nc4N

14...f5; 14...g6; 14...Nxg3

15.Rac1 Nxg3 16.hxg3



16...Nd6! - 148/129

16...Bxc3?!N 17.bxc3 g6 18.e4² Xiong,J (2709)-Bu,X (2705) chess24.com
(Int.-blitz) 148/(129) 2020

16...Qa5 17.e4! Nxb2 18.Qxb2 Bxc3 19.Qxb7²

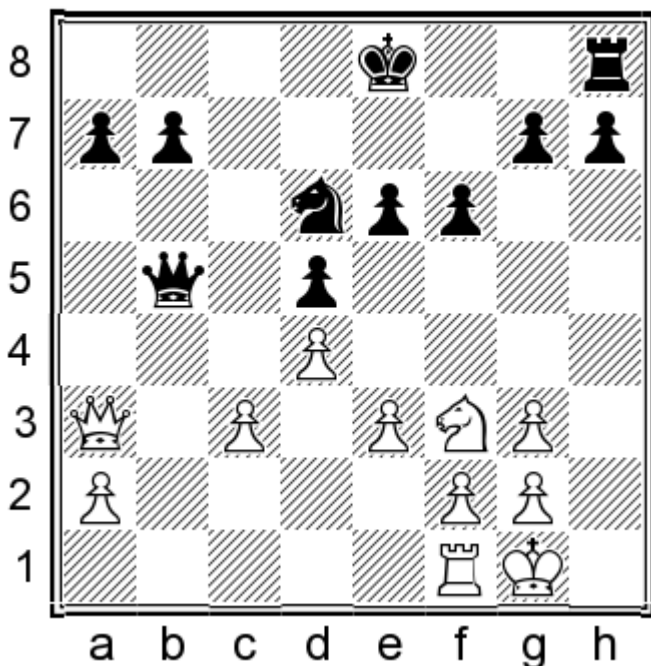
17.Qb1?!

17.e4!? dxe4 18.Bxe4 Nxe4 19.Qxe4 Bxc3 20.bxc3 b5=; 17.Qb3!? Bxc3
(17...Qa5? 18.Nxd5! exd5 19.a3 ±) 18.Rxc3 Rxc3 19.Qxc3 Kf7=

17...Bxc3 18.Rxc3 Rxc3 19.bxc3 Qb6! 20.Qb3

20.Qxb6?! axb6 21.Rb1 b5³ × a2, c3

20...Bb5! 21.Bxb5+ Qxb5 22.Qa3



22...Qa6! 23.Qxa6 bxa6 24.Nd2 Ke7 25.Rb1 Rc8 26.Rb3 Kd7 27.Ra3?!

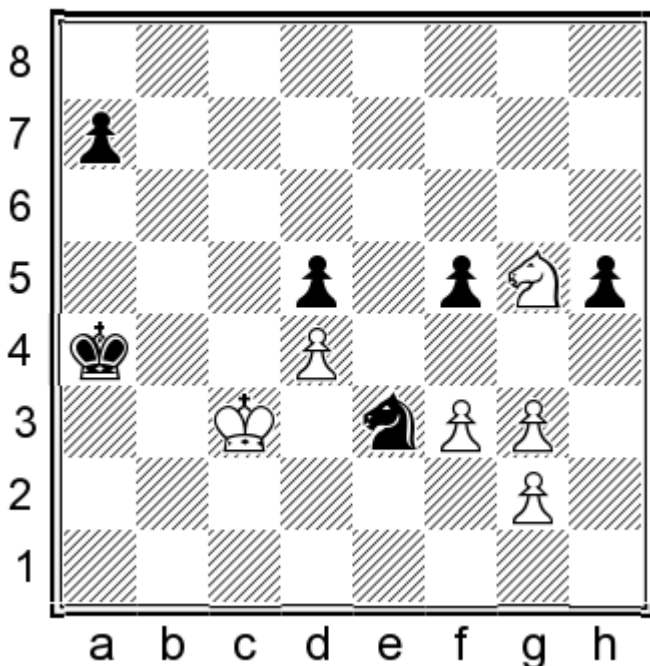
27.Kf1 Nb5 28.Nb1 Rc4 29.Rb4 =

27...Rc6 28.Nb3 Nc4 29.Rxa6?

29.Ra4 a5 30.Nxa5 Ra6 31.Nb3 Rxa4 32.Nc5+ Kc6 33.Nxa4 Nd2 34.Nc5 e5
35.Ne6 =

29...Rxa6 30.Nc5+ Kd6 31.Nxa6 Nd2 32.Nc5 Nb1 33.Na4

33.Kf1! Nxc3 34.a4 Ne4 35.Nd3 h5! 36.Nf4 (36.Ke1 g5- +) 36...e5! 37.Ne2
(37.Nxh5? g6 38.dxe5+ fxe5 39.Ng7 Ke7- +) 37...Kc6 38.Ke1 g5! 39.Kf1!
exd4! 40.exd4 f5! 41.f3 Nf6 42.Nc1 Kb6 43.Nb3 Ne8 44.Ke2 Nd6 45.Kd3
Nc4 46.Nc5 Ka5 47.Ne6 Kxa4 48.Kc3 Ne3 49.Nxg5



49...f4!! 50.g4 (50.gxf4 h4!! (50...Nxc3? 51.f5 =) 51.Kd2 Nf5- +) 50...h4!!
51.Nh3 Nxc3 52.g5 Ne3 53.g6 Nf5 54.Nxf4 Kb5- +

33...Kc6 34.Kf1 Kb5 35.Nc5 e5

35...Nxc3 36.Nxe6 Nxa2 37.Nxc7 Kc4 38.Ke2 a5 39.Kd2 a4 40.Kc2 a3- +

36.Ne6 Nxc3?

36...e4! 37.Nxc7 Nxc3- +

37.Nxc7?

37.dxe5! fxe5 38.Nxc7 Nxa2 39.f4 =

**37...exd4 38.exd4 Nxa2- + 39.Ke2 Kc4 40.Ne8 Kxd4 41.Nxf6 Nc3+ 42.Kd2
Ne4+ 43.Nxe4 0-1**

130. * D10

Kraus, Ohad (2336) - Sokolovsky, Yahli (2472)

Israel (ch) 148/130, 2021

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Bg5 Ne4 6.Nxe4 dxe4 7.a3 Qb6
8.Bd2**

8.Qd2 Bf5 9.e3 Nc6 10.Bc4 h6 11.Bh4 Rd8 12.Bg3 g5 13.Ne2 Bg7 14.Rc1 e5
15.d5 Na5 16.Ba2 Nb3 17.Bxb3 Qxb3 18.Nc3 Bg6 19.h4 O-O 20.hxg5 hxg5

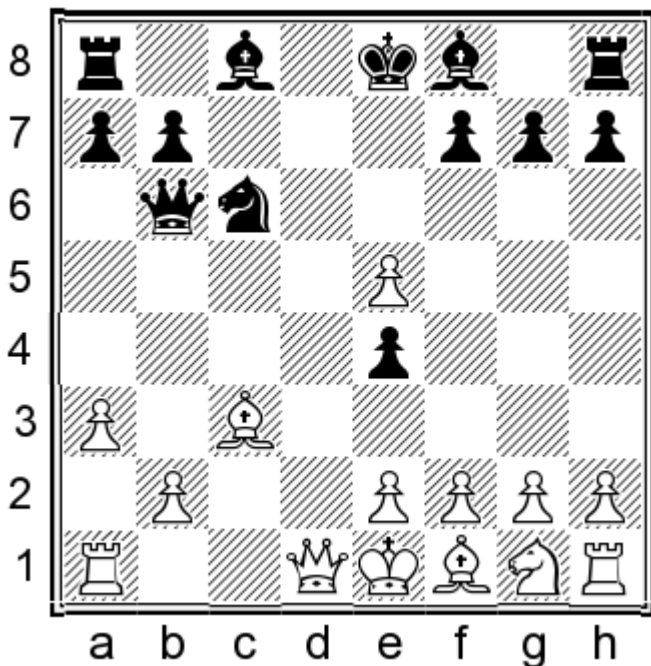
21.Qc2 Qxc2 22.Rxc2 f5 = ; 8.Rc1 Bf5 9.Qa4+ Nd7 10.Qc2 f6 11.Be3 e6
12.Nh3 g5 13.Qd2 Qb5 14.f3 Nb6 15.fxe4 Bxe4 16.Bg1 Be7 =

8...e5N

8...Bf5 - 148/(130) 9.e3 e6 10.Ne2 Nd7 11.Nc3 Be7 12.Bb5 Rd8 13.O-O O-O
14.b4 Nf6 15.Be2 Nd5 16.Na4 Qc7 17.Rc1 Qb8 18.Nc5 Bd6 19.h3?!
(19.Qc2) 19...b6 20.Na6 Qb7³ Korobov,A (2683)-Postny,E (2605) chess.com
(Int.-blitz) 148/(130) 2021

9.Bc3 e3?

9...Nc6 10.d5 (10.dxe5



10...e3! 11.f4 Be6 12.Nf3 Rd8- +) 10...Nd4 11.e3 Nb3 12.Rb1 Bd6³

10.fxe3 e4 11.Qc2 Bf5?

11...f5 12.Nh3 Bd6 13.g4! Nd7 14.Bg2 ±

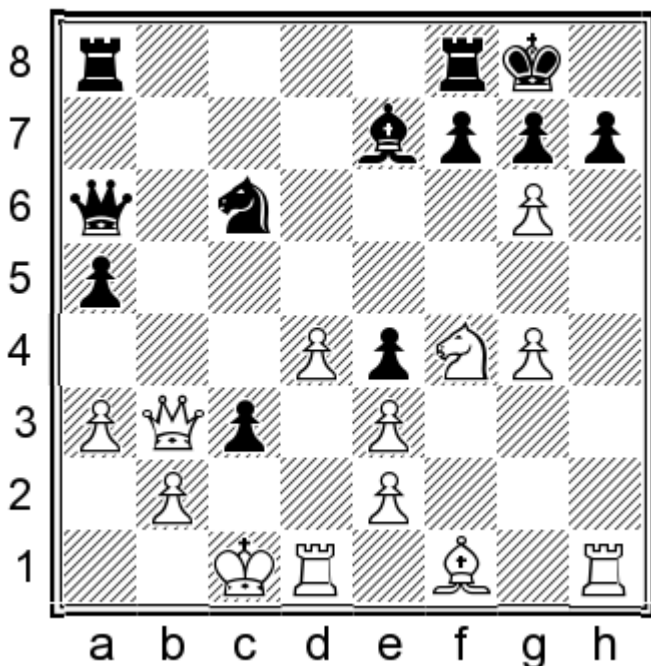
12.g4! Bg6 13.Nh3! Be7 14.Qa4+!?

14.O-O-O! O-O 15.Bg2 Nd7 16.Nf4 Rac8 17.h4! + -

14...Nc6

14...Nd7 15.Nf4 Bh4+ 16.Kd2 + -

15.O-O-O O-O 16.Nf4 a5 17.h4! + - Qa6 18.h5 b5 19.Qb3 b4 20.hxg6 bxc3



21.Qxf7+!!

21.Qxf7+ Rxf7 22.gxh7+ Kh8 23.Ng6#

1-0

131. D11

Yu, Yangyi (2709) - Liu, Yan (2524)

China (ch) 148/131, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Nf3 c6 4.c4

4.Bg2 Bf5 5.c4 e6 6.Nc3 Nbd7 7.Qb3!? Qb6 8.c5 ΔQa6?! 9.Bf1! b5 10.a4!²

4...Bf5 5.Nc3 e6 6.Qb3

6.Nh4 - 130/143

6...Qb6 7.c5 Qc7

7...Qa6? 8.e4 + -; 7...Qxb3 8.axb3 Na6 (8...Nbd7 9.b4 a6 10.b5²) 9.Bg2 Be7 10.O-O Nd7 ∞

8.Nh4 Bg6 9.Bf4 Qc8 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Bg2 Nbd7 12.O-O Be7

12...b6 13.e4 bxc5 (13...dxe4 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 (... Qf3) 15...Nf6

16.cxb6! axb6 17.Bf3 + -) 14.exd5 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 cxd5 16.Bxd5! exd5

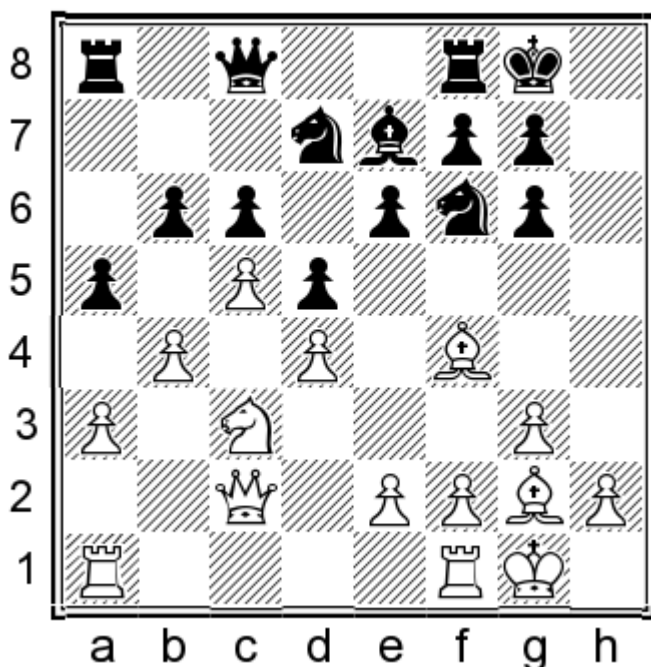
17.Rfe1+ Be7 (17...Kd8 18.Qxd5 + -) 18.Bd6 O-O 19.Bxe7 c4 20.Qf3 Re8

21.Qxd5 ±

13.Qc2 [... b4] 13...b6N

13...O-O 14.b4 Re8 15.b5 (15.Rab1 Bd8 16.b5²) 15...Bd8 16.bxc6 bxc6 17.e4 dxe4 18.Nxe4 Be7 19.Rab1 Nd5 20.Nd6 Bxd6 21.Bxd6 ±

14.b4 a5 15.a3 O-O



16.e4! axb4 17.axb4 bxc5 18.bxc5 dxe4

18...Rxa1 19.Rxa1 Qb7 20.exd5 (20.e5 Ne8 21.Bf1 Nc7 22.h4 ±) 20...Nxd5 21.Nxd5 exd5 22.Bh3 f5 23.Bf1 ±

19.Nxe4 Nd5

19...Nxe4 20.Qxe4 ±

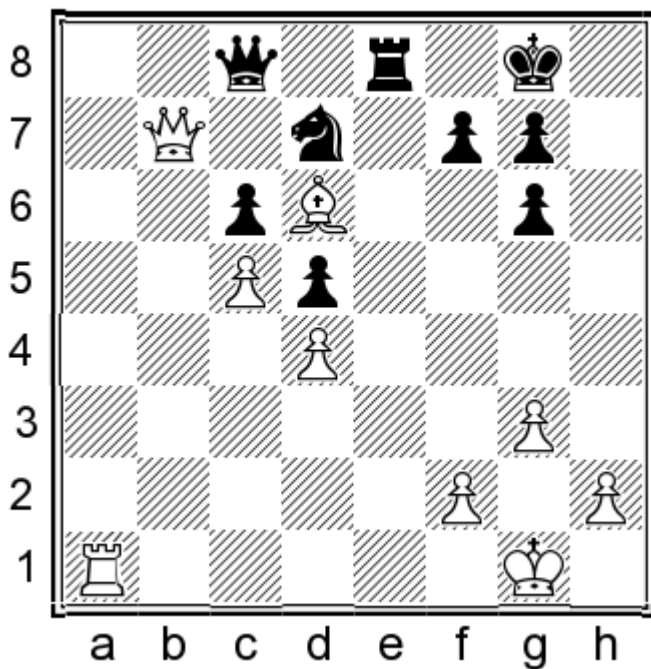
20.Nd6 Qd8 21.Bxd5?!

21.Be5! Rxa1 (21...Kh7 22.h4) 22.Rxa1 Δf6 23.Qxg6 fxe5 24.Qxe6+ Kh8 25.Bxd5 cxd5 26.Nf7+ Rxf7 27.Qxf7 +-

21...exd5 22.Qb2 Bxd6 23.Bxd6 Re8 24.Qb7!

24.Kg2 Rxa1 25.Rxa1 Qc8 26.Ra7 Nf6 27.Qb7 Qe6,,

24...Rxa1 25.Rxa1 Qc8



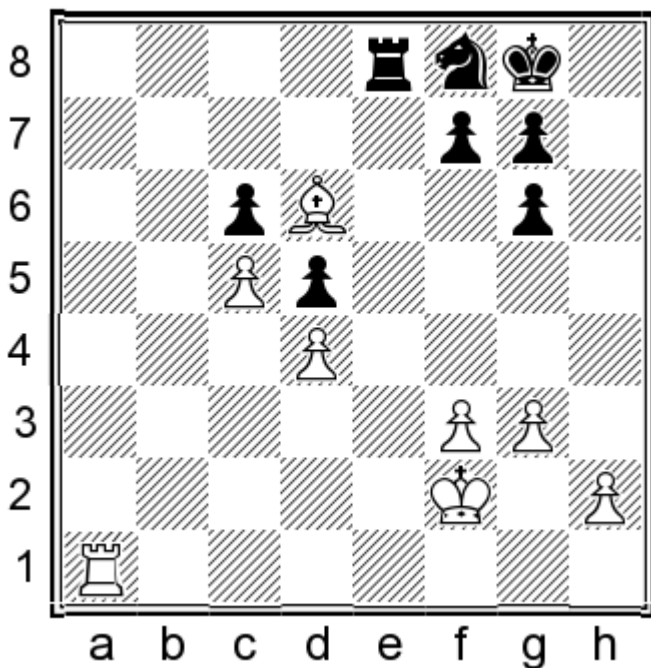
26.Qxc8!

26.Ra7 Qxb7 27.Rxb7 Nf8 28.Rc7 Ne6 =

26...Rxc8 [... Nf8-e6] 27.f3 Nf8 28.Kf2

28.Bxf8 Kxf8 29.h4 (29.Ra6 g5) 29...Re8 30.Kf2 f6

28...Re8?!



28...Ne6 29.Ke3 g5 (29...Re8 30.Kd3 Ng5) 30.Kd3 f6 =

29.f4!! [... Be5] 29...Nh7

29...Ne6 30.Ra4 Kh7 (30...f5 31.Be5 g5 32.Ra6 gxf4 33.gxf4 Rc8 34.Ra7 Re8 35.Kg3 +-) 31.h4 Rd8 32.g4 f5 (32...Rc8 33.Kf3 Rd8 34.f5 gxf5 35.gxf5 Nf8 36.Ra6 +-) 33.g5 Re8 34.Be5 +-

30.Ra6 Rc8 31.Be7

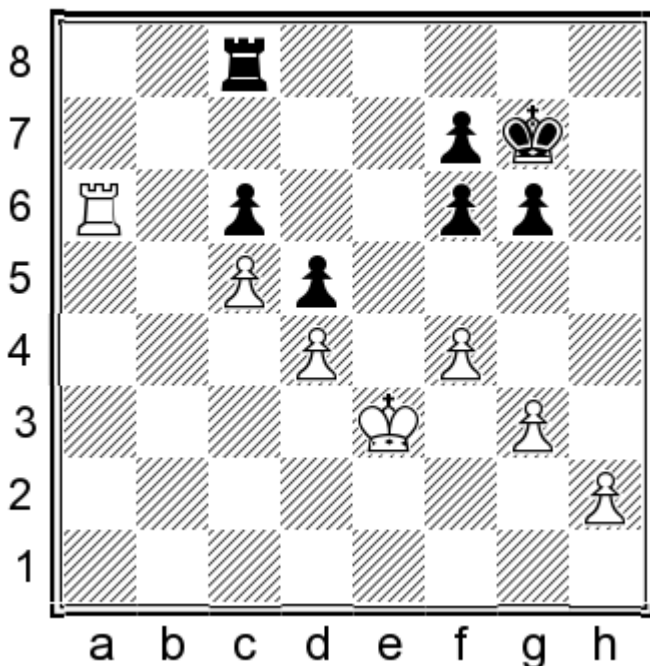
31.Be5 f6 (31...Nf6 32.Bxf6; 31...Nf8 32.Ke3 ±) 32.Bd6 ±

31...Nf6

31...Re8 32.Ra7; 31...Nf8!?

32.Bxf6! gxf6 33.Ke3 Kf8?!

33...Kg7!?



34.f5! (34.Kd3? g5! 35.f5 g4 36.Ra7 Kh6 37.Rxf7 Kg5 =) 34...gxf5 (34...g5 35.h3 ±) 35.Kf4 Kg6 36.h4²

34.Kd3 Rc7

34...f5 35.Kc3 Ke7 36.Kb4 Kd7 37.Ka5 Rb8 38.Ra7+ + -

35.Kc3

35.f5! gxf5 36.h4 + -

35...Ke7 36.Kb4 Kd7 37.Ka5?!

37.f5! Rb7+ 38.Ka4! (× b3) 38...gxf5 (38...Rc7 39.h4 Rb7 40.g4) 39.h4 Rb1 40.Ra7+ Ke6 41.Rc7

37...Rb7 38.Ra8

38.f5 gxf5 39.h4 Rb3,,

38...Rb5+ 39.Ka6 Rb4 40.Ra7+ Ke6 41.Rc7 Rxd4 42.Kb7 Rc4

42...Rd2!?

43.Kxc6

43.Rxc6+ Kf5 44.Kb6 Rb4+ 45.Ka6 Rb2 46.Rd6 Rxh2

43...d4 44.Rc8 Ke7 45.Rc7+ Ke6 46.f5+!? gxf5?

46...Kxf5! 47.Kd5 (47.Rxf7 d3 48.Rd7 Ke4) 47...Rc2 (47...Ra4 48.Rb7)

48.Kxd4 Rxh2 =

47.Rd7 Rxc5+?

47...Rc2 48.h4 Rc3 49.Rxd4 Rxg3 50.Kb5 Ke5 51.Rd2 ±

48.Kxc5 Kxd7 49.Kxd4 Ke6 50.Ke3 Ke5

50...Ke5 51.Kf3 f4 (51...Kd6 52.Kf4 Ke6 53.h4 Kd7 54.Kxf5 Ke7 55.h5 + -)
52.g4! f5 53.g5! f6 54.g6! + -

1-0

132. D15

Firouzja, Alireza (2759) - Carlsen, Magnus (2847)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/132, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 Bf5 4.c4 c6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Nh4

6.Ne5 - 131/141

6.Qb3 - 138/156

6...Bg4 7.Qc2 g6 8.h3 Be6 9.c5 Bg7 10.Bd3 Nbd7 11.f4N

11.Bd2!? b6 12.cxb6 c5 13.Na4 c4 14.Be2 a5 (14...Nxb6? 15.Ba5 Nfd7
16.Nc5 ±) 15.b7! Ra7 (15...Rb8 16.b3 ±) 16.b3 ±

11...b6 12.f5

12.cxb6 c5 13.g4!?f

12...gxf5 13.cxb6 c5 14.Bxf5?!

14.b7!? Ra7 (14...Rb8 15.O-O O-O (15...Rxb7 16.Bxa6; 15...c4 16.Bxf5 Rxb7
17.b3 Nb6 18.Bxe6 fxe6 19.Nf3 ±) 16.Bxa6) 15.O-O O-O 16.Bxf5 Rxb7
17.Ne2f

14...Qxb6 15.Na4 Qb5 16.Bd3

16.Nc3 Qb6 =

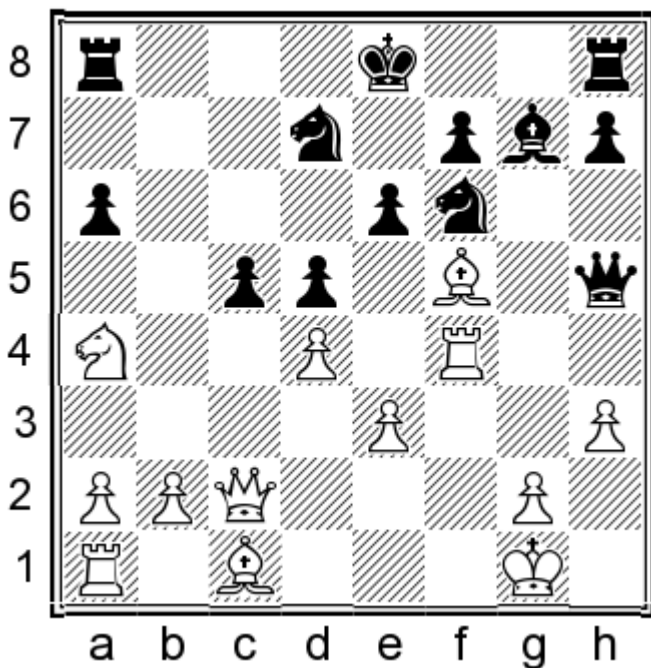
16...Qb8! 17.O-O Qg3 18.Nf5 Bxf5 19.Bxf5 e6 20.Rf3 Qe1+ 21.Rf1 Qg3

21...Qh4! 22.Bd3 (22.Rf4? - 22.Rf4)

22.Rf3 Qh4 23.Rf4?

23.Bd3 cxd4 24.Rf4 Qe1+ 25.Rf1 Qh4 26.Rf4 =

23...Qh5?!



23...Qg5! 24.Bd3 (24.dxc5? exf5 25.c6 Ne5 26.Rxf5 Qg3μ) 24...c4 25.Be2 Qg6 - 23...Qh5

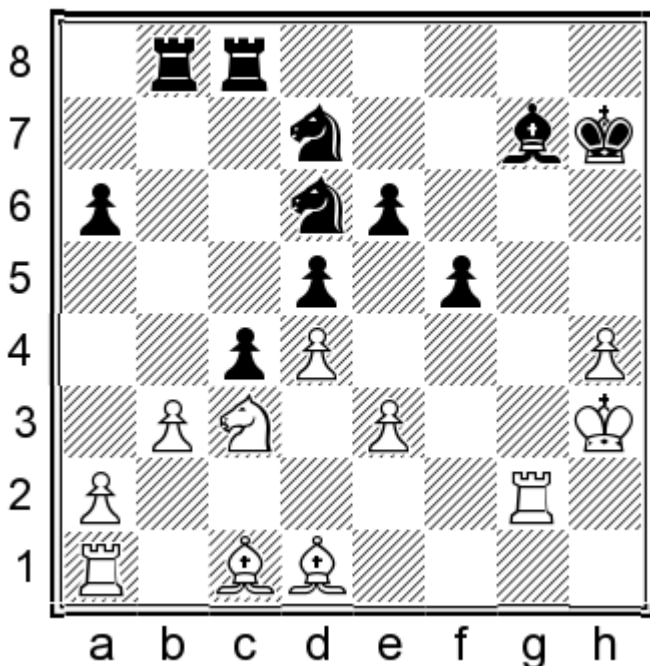
24.Bd3?

24.dxc5! exf5 (24...O-O 25.Bd3 ±) 25.c6 O-O (25...Nf8 26.c7 + -; 25...Ne5 26.Rxf5 + -) 26.Rxf5 Qg6 27.cxd7 Nxd7 28.Nc3 ±

24...c4 25.Be2 Qg6 26.Qxg6 hxg6 27.Nc3 O-O 28.h4 Nh5 29.Rf2 Ng3 30.Bd1 Rab8 31.Kh2 Nf5 32.Kh3 Nd6

32...Rfc8 33.g4 Ne7 34.g5 f5!?³

33.g4 f5 34.gxf5 gxf5 35.Rg2 Kh7 36.b3 Rfc8



37.bxc4?

37.Ba3! ΔNb5 38.Nxb5 axb5 39.Bd6 Rb6 40.Bf4 ∞

37...Rxc4 38.Ne2 Bh6! 39.Bb3 Rc7 40.Bd2 Nf6 41.Rc1 Rxc1 42.Nxc1

42.Bxc1 Rc8μ

42...Nde4 43.Nd3 Ng4 44.Re2

44.Nf4 Re8 45.Bc1 Ngf2+ 46.Kh2 Rc8 47.Bd2 Ng4+ 48.Kg1 Nxd2 49.Rxd2 Rc1+ 50.Kg2 Nxe3+ 51.Kf3 Rf1+! 52.Kxe3 Rxf4- +

44...Nxd2 45.Rxd2 Bxe3 46.Re2

46.Rc2 Rb6- +

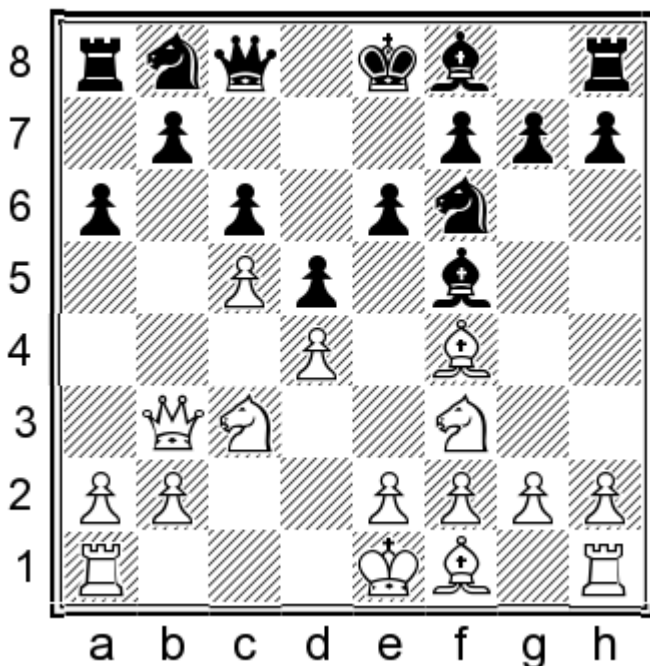
46...Rb6 47.Nc5 Kg6 48.Kg3 Kf7 49.Nd7 Rb4 0-1

133. !N D15

Jovanovic, Bojan P (2231) - Szuhaneck, Ranko (2446)

Srbija 148/133, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.c5 Bf5 6.Bf4 e6 7.Qb3 Qc8



8.Nh4!N

8.h3 - 68/(337)

8...Be4?!

8...Be7 9.Nxf5 exf5 10.e3 Nbd7 11.Qc2 g6 12.Be2 O-O 13.O-O²; 8...Bg6 9.g3 (9.e3 Be7 10.Be2 Nbd7 11.Rc1 O-O 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.O-O Bd8 14.Bd6 Re8 15.f4 Bc7 16.Be5 Nh7 17.Bd3 f5 18.Rf3 Nh8 (18...g5 19.g4! gxf4 20.exf4 Bxe5 (20...Ng5 21.fxg5 Bxe5 22.dxe5 Nxe5 23.Rg3 f4 24.Rh3 Nxd3 25.Rxd3 e5 26.Nxd5 cxd5 27.Qxd5+ ±) 21.fxe5 Ng5 22.Rff1 fxg4 23.Be2 Nf3+ 24.Bxf3 gxf3 25.Rxf3 Qd8 26.Ne2 ±) 19.Rg3 Nf6 20.Qc2 Qd8 21.b4 Qe7 22.Na4 Rad8 23.Rd1 Nh5 24.Rf3 Nf6 ∞) 9...Nbd7 10.Bg2 Be7 11.Rd1 O-O 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.O-O Nh5 14.Bc1 Nh6 15.Bf4 Nh5 16.Bd2 Nh6 17.e4 Nxe4 18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.Bxe4 Nf6 20.Bf3 Rd8 21.Ba5 Rd7 22.h4 Bd8 =

9.f3 Bg6 10.Na4

10.O-O-O! Nbd7 11.e4 Be7 (11...dxe4 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.fxe4 Be7 14.Bc4 ±) 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.Be2 O-O 14.e5 (14.Kb1 Nh5 15.Be3 dxe4 16.fxe4 e5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Na4 Qc7 19.Qc3 Rae8 20.g4 Nf6 21.Bf4 Bd8 22.g5 Nxe4 23.Qe3 Qc8 24.Qxe4 Ng4 25.Bxg4 Qxg4 26.Qc4 Bxg5 27.Rdf1 Qf5+ 28.Qc2 ±) 14...Nh5 15.Be3 g5 16.g3 g6 17.Kb1 Qc7 18.g4 Ng7 19.Qc2 ±

10...Nbd7 11.Bg3?

11.g4 Be7 12.O-O-O Bd8 13.Bd6 Bc7 14.e4 dxe4 15.g5 Bxd6 16.cxd6 Nh5
17.Nxg6 hxg6 18.fxe4 ±

11...Be7

11...Bh5! (× Nh4) 12.Bf2 g5 13.g4 Bxg4 14.fxg4 gxh4 15.g5 Ne4 16.Bxh4
Qc7 17.e3 Be7 18.Bd3 Bxg5 19.Bxg5 Nxg5 20.O-O-O Ke7 21.Nc3 f5³

12.e3?!

12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.e3 Bd8 - 12.e3

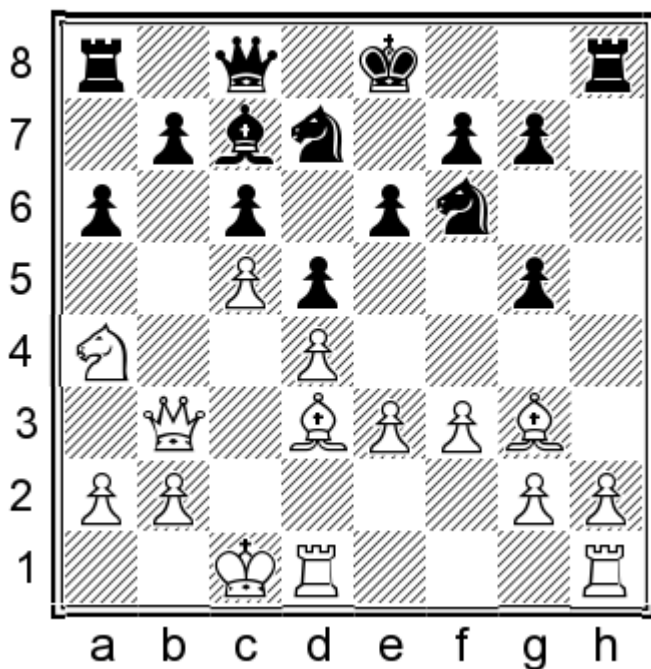
12...Bd8?!

12...Bh5! 13.Bf2 g5 14.g4 Bxg4 15.fxg4 gxh4 16.g5 Ne4 17.Bxh4 h6 18.O-O-
O Qc7 19.Be1 hxg5 20.Bg2 Ndf6 21.Qc2 Kf8!³

13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.Bd3 Bc7

14...Ba5+ 15.Nc3 Bc7 16.O-O-O e5,,

15.O-O-O g5



15...O-O 16.Kb1 Rb8 17.Qc3 Re8 18.Bxc7 Qxc7 19.f4 Qd8 20.Rc1²

16.Rhe1

16.Bc2! Rb8 (16...O-O 17.Kb1 Rb8 18.Qc3 Re8 19.Nb6 Qd8 20.Bxc7 Qxc7
21.g4 Nxb6 22.cxb6 Qe7 (22...Qxb6 23.h4 gxh4 24.Rxh4 g5 25.Rh2 Kg7

26.e4 Rh8 27.Qd2 Rxh2 28.Qxh2 +-) 23.Qe1 Nd7 24.h4 g6 25.Qg3 Nf8
26.hxg5 Qxg5 27.f4 +-) 17.e4 b6 18.cxb6 Nxb6 19.Qc3 Bf4+ 20.Kb1
(20.Bxf4 gxf4 21.Nxb6 Rxb6 22.g3²) 20...Nxa4 21.Bxa4 O-O 22.e5 Nd7
23.Bf2 g4 24.Bg3 (24.fxg4 f6!,,) 24...Bg5 25.f4 Bh6 26.h3! ±

16...Bxg3 17.hxg3 Qc7 18.Rh1 O-O-O!,, 19.g4 Qg3 20.Qc2 g6?!

20...Rxh1 21.Rxh1 Nxg4 22.fxg4 Qxe3+ 23.Qd2 Qxd4 24.Nb6+ Nxb6
25.cxb6 Qxg4³

21.Qe2 Kb8 22.Kb1 Ka7 23.Qd2 e5 24.dxe5?!

24.Nc3 Rde8 25.Rhg1 exd4 26.exd4 Rh2 27.Ne2 Qf2 28.Rdf1 Qe3 29.Qc3
Nf8 30.b4 Ne6 31.a4 Kb8 32.b5 axb5 33.axb5 cxb5 34.Kc2 Nc7 35.Qd2
Qxd2+ 36.Kxd2 Ng8 37.Nc3 b4 38.Na2 Ne6 39.Nxb4 Nxd4 40.Nxd5 Re5
41.Bc4 =

24...Qxe5

24...Rxh1 25.Rxh1 Qxe5 26.Rd1 (26.Bc2 Re8 27.Re1 d4 28.e4 Nxc5 29.Nxc5
Qxc5μ) 26...Qe7 (26...Re8 27.Qa5 Rh8 28.e4 dxe4 29.Bxe4 Rh2 30.Qd8
Rxc2 31.Rxd7 Nxd7 32.Qxd7 f5 33.gxf5 gxf5 34.Qd8 Rg1+ 35.Kc2 Qh2+
36.Kb3 fxe4 37.Qb6+ Ka8 38.Qd8+ Qb8 39.Nb6+ Ka7 40.Nc8+ =) 27.Bc2
Qe5 28.Qa5 Rb8 29.e4 dxe4 30.Bxe4 Nxe4 31.Rxd7 Nf6 32.Rd6 Qe2
33.Qb6+ Ka8 34.Qb3 Nd5 35.Nb6+ Nxb6 36.cxb6 Qxg2 37.a3 f5 38.Rxc6
fxg4 39.Rg8 Qg1+ 40.Ka2 Qg3 41.Rxc6 Qxf3 42.Qxf3 gxf3 43.Rf5 Rg8
44.Rxf3 Kb8 =

25.Rhe1 Qc7 26.Bf1 Rh1 27.Qd4 Rdh8

27...Re8 28.b4 Qe5 29.Kc2 Qxd4 30.exd4 Rxe1 31.Rxe1 Nf8 32.Nb2 Ne6
33.Kc3 Nd7 34.Nd3 Kb8 =

28.Nb6 Ne5

28...Re8 29.e4 Qf4 30.Nxd7 Nxd7 31.Qc3 Qc7 32.exd5 Rxe1 33.Qxe1 cxd5
34.Rxd5 Nxc5 =

29.Rc1 R8h2

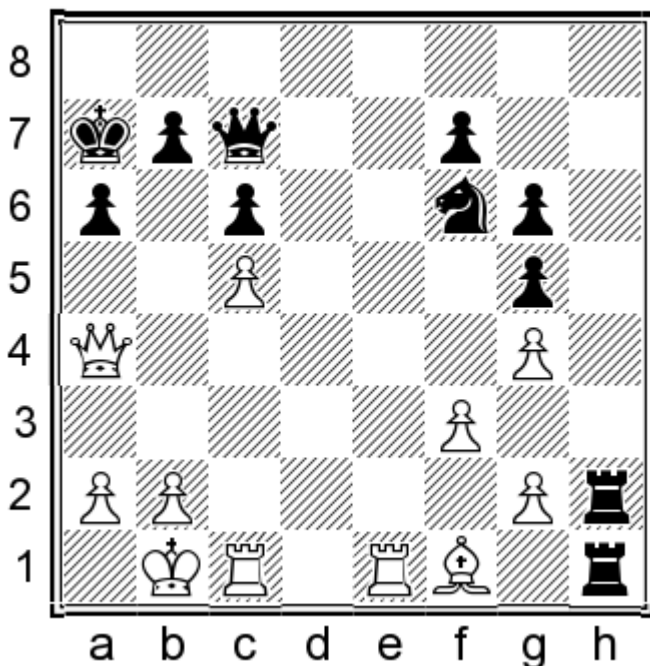
29...Re8 =

30.Qa4

30.a4f

30...Nfd7 31.Bxa6?

31.Nxd7 Nxd7 32.e4 dxe4 33.Qxe4 Nf6 34.Qa4



34...Rxf1! (34...a5 35.Qc2 Nd5 36.Qd2 Nf4 37.a3 Rh8 38.Rcd1) 35.Rxf1
Rxb2 36.Qd4 Nd5 37.Rf2 Rg3 38.Qe4 Nf6 39.Qd4 Nd5 =

31...Nxc5 32.Qa5 Rxe1 33.Be2+ Na6 34.Qxe1 Kxb6 35.e4 d4

35...Rxb2 36.exd5 c5 37.Rc2 Nb4 38.Rd2 Qd6- +

**36.Bxa6 Kxa6 37.Qg1 Nd7 38.Qxd4 Rxb2 39.Rc3 b6 40.Ra3+ Kb7
41.Qa4? Kc8?†**

41...Rg1+ 42.Kc2 Qh2+ 43.Kb3 Nc5+- +

42.Qa8+ Nb8 43.Ra7 Qd6 44.Qb7+ Kd8 45.Qxb6+ Ke8 46.a4 Nd7?

46...Qd3+ 47.Ka2 Nd7 48.Ra8+ Ke7 49.Qd8+ Kd6 50.e5+ Kc5 51.Qa5+ Kd4-
+; 46...Rd2! 47.Ka2 Qe6+ 48.Qb3 Qxb3+ 49.Kxb3 Rd7- +

47.Ra8+ Ke7 48.Qd8+ Ke6 49.Qxg5?†

49.Qe8+ Qe7 50.a5 Rg1+ 51.Ka2 Rd1 52.a6 Rd4 53.a7 Nb6 54.Qxe7+ Kxe7
55.Rb8 Ra4+ 56.Kb3 Rxa7 57.Rxb6 =

49...Qd3+ 50.Ka2 Qc4+ 51.Ka3 Qd3+ 52.Ka2 Nf6

52...f6! 53.Qxg6 Qc4+ 54.Ka3 Qd4 55.Qg8+ Ke5 56.Qb3 Nb6 57.Ra5+ Kf4
58.Rf5+ Kg3 59.f4+ Kh2 60.Rh5+ Kg1- +

53.Qc5 Rc2 54.Qb6 Qc4+ 55.Ka3

55.Qb3 Qxb3+ 56.Kxb3 Rf2 57.Ka2 Rxf3 58.a5 Rd3 59.a6 Rd7 60.a7 Re7!

61.Kb3 Nxe4- +

55...Rc1 0-1

134. * D24

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789)
chess24.com (Int.-m1/3-rapid) 148/134, 2021

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.e4 b5 6.e5 Nd5 7.Nxb5 Nb6 8.Be2
Nc6 9.O-O Be7 10.Qd2 Bb7 11.Rd1 Qd7 12.Nc3**

12.Qf4 - 142/136

12...Nb4 13.a3

13.Qf4 - 142/(136)

13...N4d5 14.Ne4 Qc6 15.Re1N

15.Qc2 - 148/(134) 15...Nb4N (15...h6) 16.axb4 Qxe4 17.Qxe4 Bxe4 18.b5
c6 19.bxc6 Bxc6 20.Nd2 Bd5 21.Nf1 O-O Ding,L (2799)-Praggnanandhaa,R
(2608) chess24. com (Int.-blitz) 148/(134) 2021 (21...O-O 22.Bd2 × a7;
21...a5! 22.Ne3 a4∞)

15...O-O-O?!

15...a5! 16.Qc2 h6 17.Bd2 (17.Ng3 g5!? 18.Bf1 O-O-O 19.Nh5 Kb8∞)
17...Ne3 (17...Nf4 18.Bf1 Nd3 19.Bxd3 cxd3 20.Qxd3 Qc4 21.Qb1²) 18.Bxe3
(18.Nf6+ gxf6 19.Bxe3 Rg8,,) 18...Qxe4 19.Qxe4 Bxe4 20.Nd2 Bd5 21.Rec1
Kd7 22.Nxc4 Nxc4 23.Bxc4 Rhb8 24.Bxd5 exd5 25.Rc2 Rb3©

16.Bf1 f5 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Qe2 Kb8 19.Bd2 Rhg8 20.Rac1 Bd6 21.g3 f5

21...Nf4 22.Bxf4 Bxf4 23.Rc3 ±

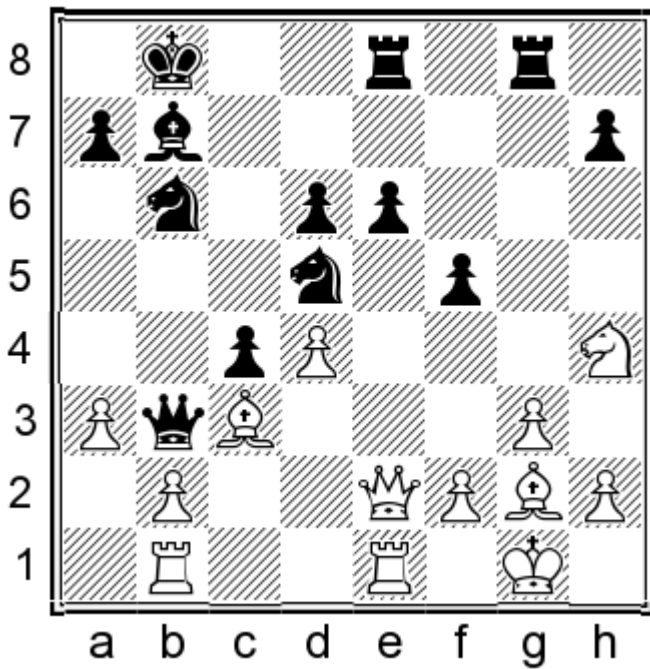
22.Nxd6

22.Nc5!? Bxc5 23.Ne5 Qd6 24.dxc5 Qxc5 25.Nxc4 ±

22...cxd6 23.Bg2?!

23.Qxe6 Nf4 24.d5! Nfxd5 25.Nd4 Qc7 26.Bg2 ±

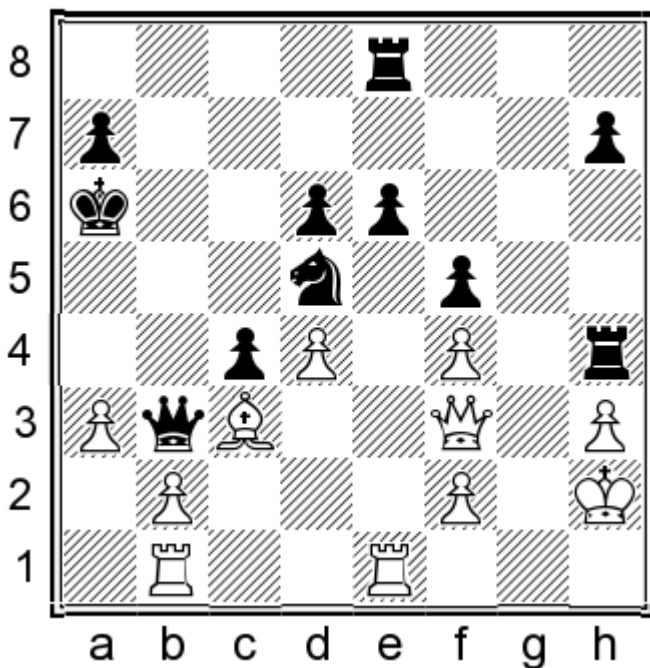
23...Rde8 24.Nh4 Qb5 25.Rb1 Qb3 26.Bc3?



26.Qf3 Re7 ∞

26...Nf4! 27.gxf4 Rg4 28.h3 Rxh4 29.Bxb7 Kxb7 30.Qf3+ Ka6 31.d5?

31.Kh2! Nd5



(31...Rh6 32.a4!?,) 32.Rxe6! Rxe6 33.Qxd5 Reh6 34.Qc6+ Qb6 35.Qc8+ Qb7 36.Qxc4+ Qb5 (36...Kb6 37.Qb3+ Kc6 38.Qc4+ Kb6 =) 37.Qc8+ Qb7 =

**31...Nxd5 32.Rxe6 Rxe6 33.Qxd5 Rg6+ 34.Kf1 Qb5- + 35.Rd1 Qxd5
36.Rxd5 Rxf4 37.Bd4 Rf3 38.Be3 f4 39.Rf5 Re6 40.Bd4 Re4 41.Kg2 Rd3
42.Bc3 d5 43.Rf6+ Kb5 44.Rf7 d4 45.Bb4 Re2 0-1**

D25-D49

135. D31

Radjabov, Teimour (2765) - Carlsen, Magnus (2847)

chess24.com (Int.-m1/2-rapid) 148/135, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 a6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Bg5 Be6 7.e3 Nbd7
8.Bd3 c6

8...Bd6 - 119/131

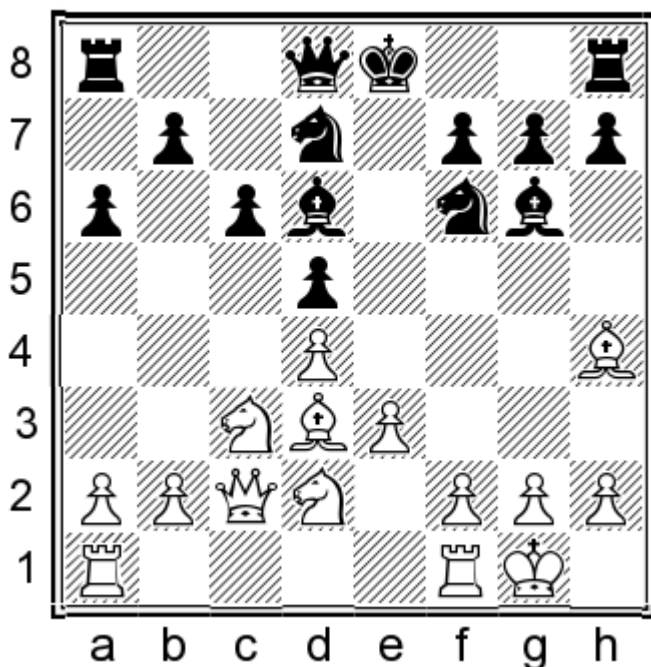
9.Bh4 Bd6 10.Qc2 Bg4!?

10...h6

11.Nd2 Bh5 12.O-ON

12.e4

12...Bg6



13.e4!

13.f3 Qc7 14.h3 c5 ∞

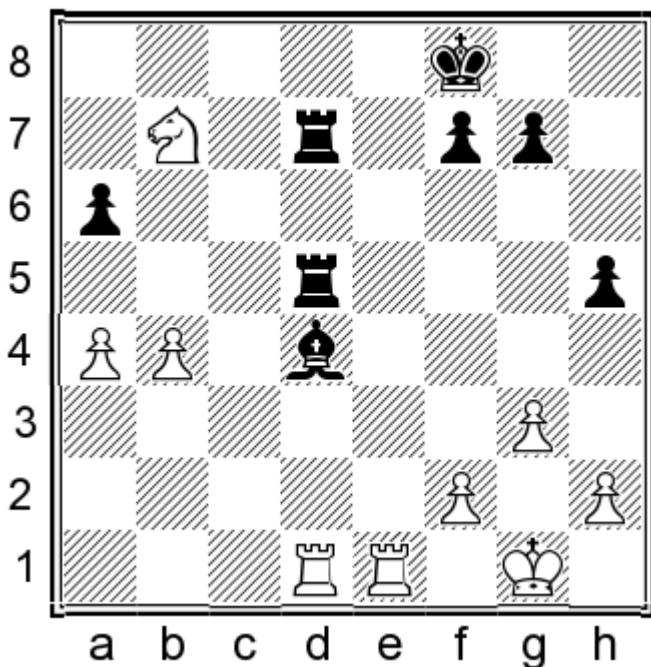
13...dxe4 14.Ndxe4 Be7 15.Nxf6+ Nxf6 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Rfe1+ Kf8!

17...Be7 18.d5! cxd5 19.Rad1f

18.Rad1 Qd6 19.d5 c5 20.g3 Bd4 21.a4 Bxd3 22.Qxd3 Rd8 23.Qc4

23.Re4!? h5 24.b4 b6 25.a5 Bxc3 26.Qxc3 cxb4 27.Rxb4 bxa5 28.Rc4 h4
 29.Rc8 hxg3 30.hxg3 Rh6 = 31.Qc6 Qxc6 32.Rxd8+ Qe8 33.Rxe8+ Kxe8
 34.Ra1 Kd7 35.Rxa5 Kc7 36.Kg2 Kb6 37.Ra2 Rd6³; 23.Ne2 Bxb2 24.Rb1
 Be5 25.Rxb7 g6 26.Nc3 Kg7 27.a5 c4 28.Qd2 Rhe8 ∞ 29.Rb6 Qc5 30.Rxa6
 Qa3 31.Re3 Bxc3 32.Qxc3+ Qxc3 33.Rxc3 Rxd5 34.Rxc4 Re1+ 35.Kg2
 Ra1 =

**23...h5 24.Ne4 Qxd5 25.Qxd5 Rxd5 26.Nxc5 Rh6 27.b4 Rhd6 28.Nxb7
 Rd7?**



28...Rb6 29.Nc5 Rxb4 30.Nxa6 (30.Re4 Rxc5 31.Rexd4 Rxd4 32.Rxd4 =)
 30...Rxa4 31.Nc7 Re5 =

29.Nc5?

29.Na5? Bxf2+; 29.Rc1! g6 30.Na5 ±

**29...Bxc5 30.Rxd5 Rxd5 31.bxc5 Rxc5 32.Re4 = g5 33.g4 h4 34.Kg2 Kg7
 35.h3 Kf6 36.f4 Rc2+ 37.Kg1 Ra2 38.fxg5+ Kxg5 39.Rc4 f6 40.Rd4 a5
 41.Rc4 Rb2 42.Kf1**

42.Rc5+ Kf4 43.Rxa5 Kg3 44.Rb5 Rg2+ 45.Kf1 Kxh3 46.Rb3+ Kh2 47.Ra3
 Rg1+ 48.Kf2 Rg2+ 49.Kf1 =

42...Ra2 43.Kg1 Kg6 44.Rf4 Ra1+ 45.Kf2 Ra2+ 46.Kg1 Ra1+ 47.Kf2 Ra2+ 48.Kg1 1/2-1/2

136. D31

Nisipeanu, Liviu Dieter (2657) - Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2625)

chess.com (Int.-rapid) 148/136, 2020

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 c6 4.e4 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Qxd4 7.Bxb4 Qxe4+ 8.Ne2 Nd7

8...Na6 9.Bf8 Ne7 10.Bxg7 Nb4 11.Bxh8 (11.Qd6 Nd3+ (11...Nc2+ - 119/134) 12.Kd2 Nf5 13.Qxd3 Qxd3+ 14.Kxd3 Nxc7 15.Kc3 Ke7 (15...c5 16.g3²) 16.Ng3 c5 17.Bd3 b6 18.Be4 Rb8 19.Rhe1 Bb7 =) 11...e5 12.Qd6 Nc2+ 13.Kd2 Bf5 14.Rd1!? (14.Ng3 - 57/(396)) 14...Rd8 15.Qxd8+ Kxd8 16.Kc1+ Kc8! 17.Nc3 Qf4+ 18.Rd2 Ng6 19.Bf6 Nb4 20.h4 e4 21.Bg5 Qe5 ∞

9.Qd6 a5 10.Ba3

10.Bc3 - 146/139

10...Qe5

10...c5 11.O-O-O Ra6 12.Qd2© ΔNh6 13.Nc3 Qc6 14.Bd3 O-O 15.Be4 Qc7 16.Nb5 Qb8 17.Rhe1 f5 18.Bc2 Nf7 19.f4 ±

11.Qd2 Ngf6 12.f4

12.O-O-O; 12.Bd6

12...Qb8N

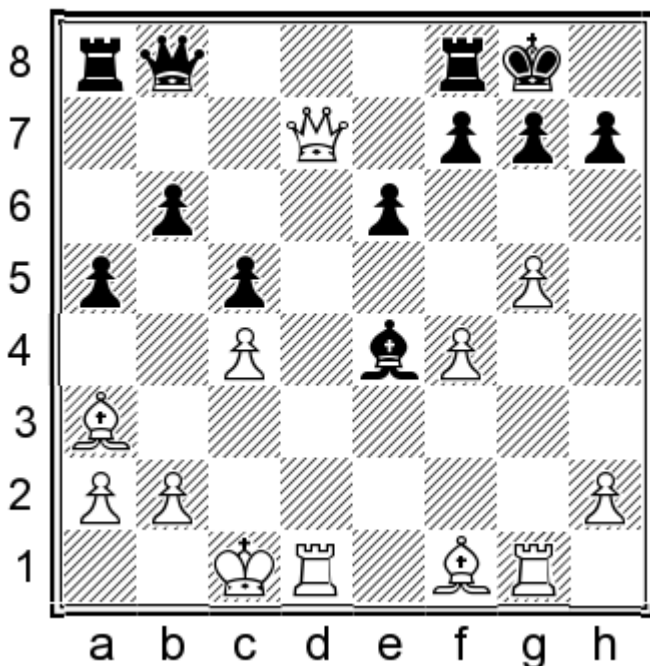
12...Qe4

13.Nc3!

13.O-O-O b5!,,

13...c5 14.O-O-O b6 15.g4! Bb7 16.Rg1f Bf3

16...O-O 17.g5 (17.Rg3 Bc6 18.g5 Nh5 19.Rd3 Qxf4 20.Qxf4 Nxf4 21.Rxd7 Bxd7 22.Rxd7 Rfd8 ∞) 17...Ne4 18.Nxe4 (18.Qxd7 Qxf4+ 19.Kb1 Qxh2 20.Bd3 Nxc3+ 21.bxc3 Bf3 ∞) 18...Bxe4 19.Qxd7



19...Bf3! 20.b3! (20.g6 Bxd1 21.gxh7+ Kh8 22.Qxd1 Qxf4+ 23.Kb1 Qxh2 24.Qg4 Qxh7+ 25.Kc1 Qh6+ 26.Kb1 Qh7+=) 20...Bxd1 21.Qxd1 Qxf4+ 22.Qd2 Qxd2+ 23.Kxd2 Rfd8+ 24.Bd3 a4 25.b4 b5 26.Ke3²

17.Re1 Bxg4

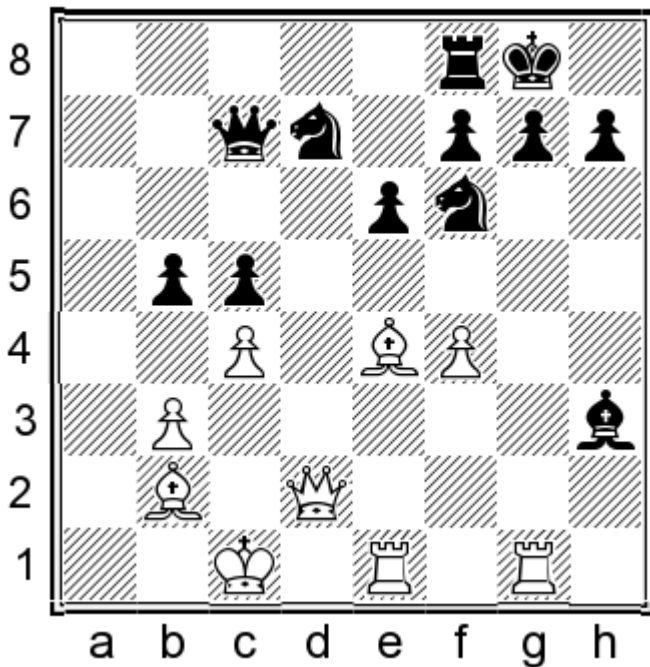
17...Qb7 18.Qf2!? Nxg4 (18...O-O-O 19.g5²) 19.Qh4! (19.Rxg4 Bxg4 20.Bg2 Qb8 21.Qg3 Bh5! 22.Bxa8 Qxa8 23.Qxg7 Rf8 24.Nd5 Qd8 25.Qg2 Qh4 26.Re3 Bg6∞) 19...O-O (19...h5 20.h3 Nh6 21.Bd3 Nf6 22.Rxg7 Qe7 23.f5 e5 24.b3 O-O-O 25.Bc2 Rhg8 26.Qg5²) 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Qxg4 Nf6 22.Qg2 Qxg2 23.Bxg2 Rab8 (23...Rad8 24.Na4) 24.b3²

18.Bg2

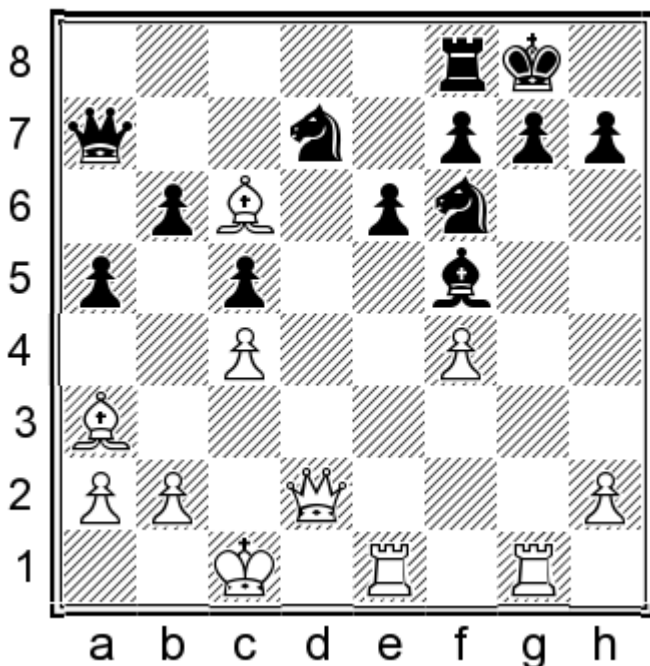
18.h3!? Bf5 19.Rxg7 Bg6 20.f5! Bxf5 21.Rg5 Bg6 22.b3© Δa4 23.Bb2 axb3 24.axb3 Rg8 25.Qe3!? Ra5 26.Nb5 Ke7 27.Bg2 h6 28.Re5 Nxe5 29.Bxe5f

18...Ra7 19.Nb5 O-O 20.Nxa7 Qxa7 21.Bc6

21.b3 a4 22.Bb2 axb3 23.axb3 Qc7 24.Be4 Δb5 25.h3! Bh5 (25...Bxh3?



26.Rxg7+! Kxg7 27.Rg1+ Kh8 28.Qxd7 Qxf4+ 29.Qd2 +- 26.cxb5 c4 27.b6!
 Nxb6 28.Be5! Qe7 29.Bd6 Qd8 30.Bxf8 Qxf8 31.Qd4 Qa3+ 32.Qb2 ±
21...Bf5?!



21...Qc7! 22.Rxg4 (22.Bxd7 Rd8 23.b3 Rxd7 24.Qe3 h5 25.h3 Bf5 26.Bb2 Rd3 ∞) 22...Nxg4 23.Qxd7 Qxf4+ 24.Qd2 (24.Kb1?! Ne3) 24...Qxd2+ 25.Kxd2 Rd8+ 26.Kc2 (26.Ke2 Ne5 27.Bb5 Nd3 28.Rd1 Nf4+ 29.Ke1 Ng2+ =) 26...Nxh2 27.b3 Rd6 ∞

22.b3! $\pm$ a4 23.Bb2 axb3

23...g6 24.Rd1 axb3 25.a4 Nb8 26.Qc3 + -

24.a3

24.Bxd7 Bg6 25.Bxf6 gxf6 26.f5! bxa2 27.Kb2 + -

24...g6

24...Bg6 25.f5! exf5 26.Re7 + -; 24...Nb8 25.Bxf6 Bg6 26.Bf3 gxf6 27.Kb2 Δ b5 28.f5! exf5 29.h4 + -

25.Rd1 Qc7 26.Qd6 Rc8 27.Bxd7 Nxd7 28.Qxd7 Qxf4+ 29.Qd2 Qxc4+ 30.Qc3 + - Qf4+ 31.Rd2 e5 32.Qxe5 Qxe5 33.Bxe5 c4 34.Bc3 1-0

137. D35

Carlsen, Magnus (2847) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2789)

chess24.com (Int.-m2/2-rapid) 148/137, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Bb4 6.Qa4+

6.e3 - 98/(309)

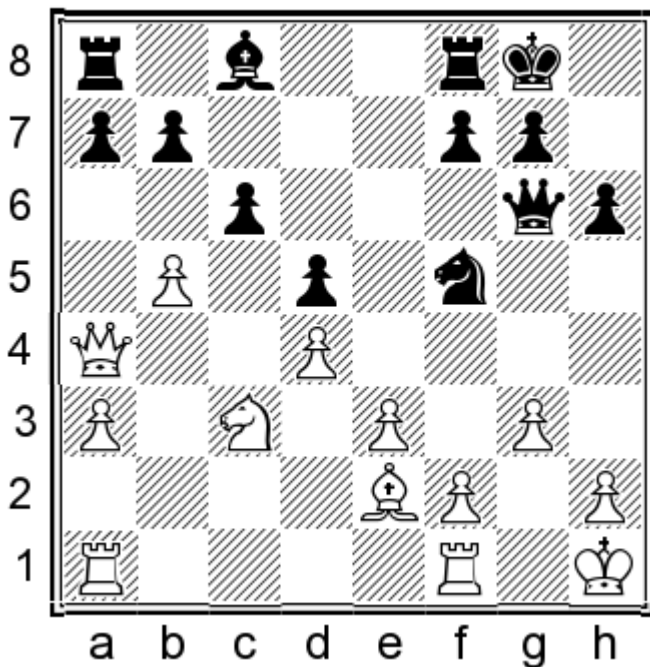
6...Nc6 7.e3 h6 8.Bxf6 Qxf6 9.Ne2!? O-O 10.a3N

10.Ng3

10...Bxc3+ 11.Nxc3 Ne7 12.Be2

12.Qc2 Bf5 13.Bd3 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 c6 =

12...c6 13.O-O Nf5 14.b4 Nh4! 15.Kh1 Qg6 16.g3 Nf5 17.b5



17...h5!f 18.bxc6 bxc6 19.Rg1

19.Rac1 Nh6 20.Bf3 Qf6 21.Qd1 Re8 22.Na4 Rb8³

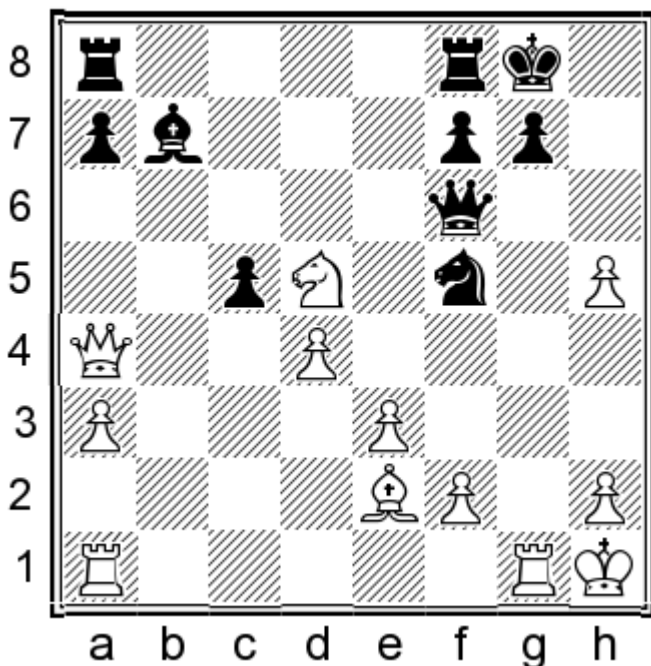
19...h4

19...Nh6! 20.Rac1 Ng4 21.Nd1 Bd7f

20.gxh4 Qf6 21.h5 c5?!

21...Rb8 22.Qxa7 Rb3 23.Nd1 (23.Rac1 Nd6 24.Qc7 Bf5©) 23...Nh4©

22.Nxd5 Bb7



23.Bf3

23.Qd7! Bc6 24.Bf3 Bxd5 25.Qxd5 cxd4 26.Be4 Ne7 27.Qxd4 ±

23...Bxd5 24.Bxd5 Rad8 25.Qc6 Qxc6 26.Bxc6 cxd4 27.Rg5

27.e4 Rd6 28.Bd5 Ne7 29.Rgd1 Nxd5 30.Rxd4 Rf6 31.exd5 Rxf2 32.d6 Rd8
33.Re1 Rf6 34.d7 Kf8 35.Rde4 Re6 36.Rxe6 fxe6 37.Rxe6 Rxd7 =

**27...Ne7 28.Bf3 dxe3 29.fxe3 Rd3 30.Re5 Nc8 31.a4 Nd6 32.Rc1 Rb8
33.Kg2 Rbb3 34.Rc6 Kf8 35.a5?!**

35.Rc7 Rxe3 36.Rxe3 Rxe3 37.Rxa7 Ra3 38.Kg3 ±

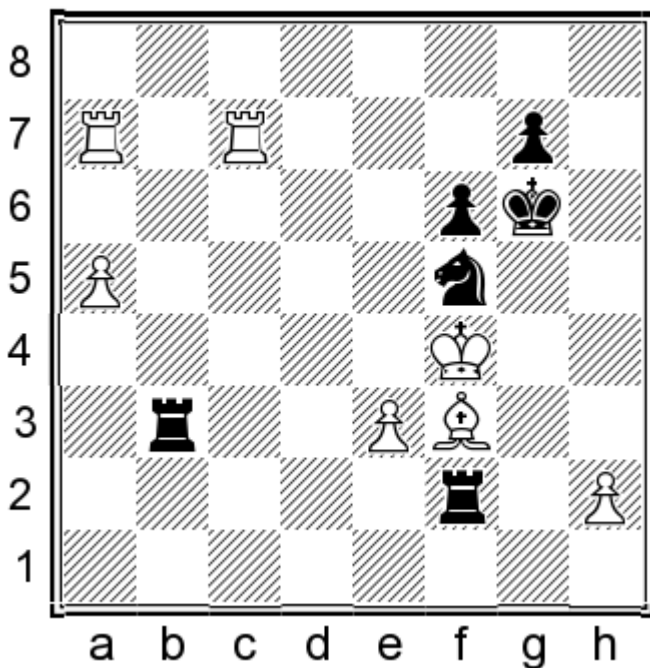
35...f6 36.Re6 Nf5 37.h6 Nxh6 38.Rc8+?

38.Bh5 Rb2+ 39.Kf3 Rd8 40.Rc7 Rxh2 41.Bg6 Rh3+ 42.Kg2 (42.Kf4 Rh4+
43.Kf3 =) 42...Rh4 43.Kf3 Rh3+ =

38...Kf7 39.Ra6 Rd2+ 40.Kg3 Nf5+ 41.Kf4 Rf2 42.Rxa7+

42.Kxf5 Rxf3+ 43.Kg4 Rfxe3 44.Rc7+ Kg6 45.Kf4 Rbd3! 46.Rd7 (46.Raxa7
Rf3+ 47.Ke4 f5+ 48.Ke5 Rfe3+ 49.Kf4 Re4#) 46...Rxd7 47.Kxe3 Kf5μ

42...Kg6 43.Rcc7



43.Re8 Rxh2- +

43...Kh6! 44.Kxf5 Rxe3 45.Rc5 g6+ 46.Kg4 Rxf3 0-1

138. D35

Gorshtein, Ido (2387) - Parkhov, Yair (2407)

Israel (ch) 148/138, 2021

1.c4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Bf5 8.e3 Nbd7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Bd6 11.Bg3

11.O-O-O - 69/374

11.O-O O-O 12.Rac1 (12.Rab1 - 69/375) 12...Re8 =

11...Bxg3 12.hxg3 Qe7 13.Rb1N

13.O-O-O; 13.O-O; 13.Qf5

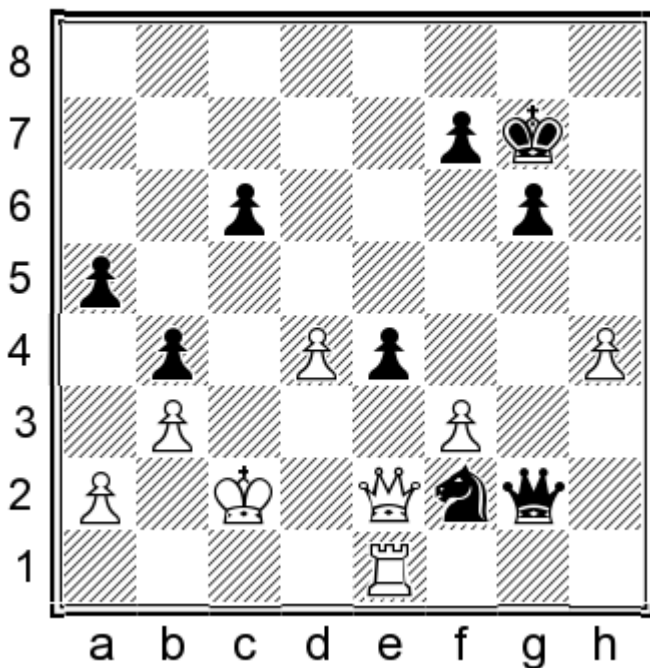
13...a5 14.Nd2 O-O 15.f3 h5!? 16.Kf2 g6 17.Nb3 Kg7³ 18.Nc1 b5 19.Qd2 Nb6! 20.b3 b4

20...Nc8 21.Qe2 Nd6- +

21.N3e2 Nc8! 22.Nd3 Nd6 23.Nc5 Nf5 24.Nf4 Rae8 25.Rbe1 Qd6 26.Qd3 Re7 27.Re2 Rfe8 28.Rhe1 Kg8?!

28...h4! 29.gxh4 (29.g4 Ng3 30.Rc2 Qxf4! 31.exf4 Rxe1- +) 29...Rxe3

30.Rxe3 Rxe3 31.Rxe3 Qxf4 32.Re1 Ng4+ 33.Kf1 Ng3+ 34.Kg1 Ne4!
 35.Nxe4 Qh2+ 36.Kf1 Qh1+ 37.Ke2 Qxg2+ 38.Kd1 dxe4 39.Qe2 Nf2+
 40.Kc2



40...Nd3!!- +

29.Qb1 Nh6 30.Qc1 g5 31.Nfd3 Nhg4+

31...Nf5 32.Ne5 Rxe5 33.dxe5 Qxe5 34.Kg1 Nxc3 35.Rf2 g4 36.e4! dxe4³

32.fxc4 Nxc4+ 33.Kg1 Qxc3 34.Nf2 = f5 35.Ncd3

35.Ncd3 Nh2 36.Kh1 Ng4 37.Kg1 =

1/2-1/2

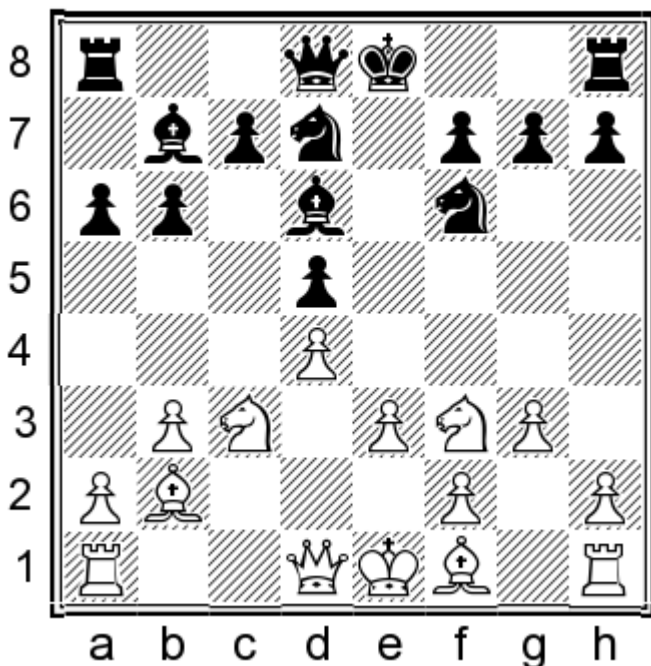
139. D37

Ivanchuk, Vassily (2678) - Lupulescu, Constantin (2656)
 tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/139, 2021

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.e3 a6 6.b3 b6 7.Bb2 Bb7 8.cxd5

8.Bd3 - 82/(453), D

8...exd5 9.g3 Bd6



10.Bh3!?!N

10.Bg2 Ne4 (10...O-O 11.O-O Qe7 12.Qc2 Rfe8 13.Rac1 Rac8 14.Rfd1 Nf8 15.Ne2 Ng6 16.Nf4 Ne4 17.Ne5!? Nxf4 (17...Nxe5 18.dxe5 Bxe5 19.Nxd5²) 18.exf4 Nf6 19.Bh3²) 11.O-O O-O 12.Rc1 Qe7 13.Rc2 (13.Ne2 a5 14.a4 Ba6,,) 13...Nxc3 14.Bxc3 a5 ∞

10...Qe7

10...Ne4 11.O-O Nxc3 12.Bxc3 a5 13.Ne5 Nf6 14.f3 O-O 15.Rc1 Re8 16.a4 Re7 17.Re1 Qe8 18.Bf5!?

11.Qc2 O-O-O!?

11...O-O 12.O-O Ne4 13.Nxe4 dxe4 14.Nd2 Nf6 15.Nc4 Nd5 16.Nxd6 (16.Bf5 Nb4 ... Nd3; 16.a3 f5,,) 16...cxd6 17.Rac1 f5,,

12.Ne5!?

12.a4 h5 13.a5 b5!? 14.Nh4 g6 15.O-O Ne4 16.Rfc1 Kb8 17.Nxb5!? axb5 18.a6 Bc8 19.Ba3 Ng5 20.Bf5!? gxf5 21.Nxf5 Nh3+ 22.Kf1 Qf6 23.Bxd6 cxd6 24.Qc7+ Ka8 25.Qc6+ Ka7 =

12...Bxe5

12...h5 13.O-O-O (13.Nxd7 Nxd7 14.Bg2 Nf6 15.h4 Kb8 ... Rhe8 ∞) 13...Kb8 14.f4 Bb4 15.Kb1 Ng4,,

13.dxe5 Qxe5 14.O-O

14.Ne2 Qe7 15.Rc1 c5 16.b4 c4 17.Bd4!? Δ Qxb4+ 18.Nc3 Qa3 19.O-O $\odot$

14...Qh5 15.Bg2 Ne5

15...d4!? 16.Bxb7+ Kxb7 17.exd4 Rhe8 ∞

16.Qe2

16.Rac1 Kb8 17.Ne2 c5 18.b4 d4! 19.Bxb7 Nfg4 20.h4 d3 21.Qa4 (21.Nf4 dxc2 22.Nxh5 Kxb7 23.Rxc2 cxb4 24.Nxg7 Rc8³) 21...Kxb7 22.Nf4 Qh6 23.Bxe5 Nxe5 24.bxc5 d2 25.Qe4+ Qc6 26.Qxe5 dxc1=Q 27.Rxc1 f6 28.Qb2 Ka7 29.cxb6+ Qxb6 30.Qa3 Rhe8 31.Ne2 Rc8³

16...Qxe2

16...Qf5!? 17.Rac1 (17.f4 Nd3 18.Ba3 d4! 19.e4 Qg4 20.Qxd3 dxc3 21.Qxc3 Nxe4 22.Qf3 Qf5 μ) 17...Rhe8 (17...d4!? 18.exd4 Nd3 19.Rcd1 Nxb2 20.Qxb2 Bxg2 21.Kxg2 Rhe8 22.Qd2 h5f) 18.Rfd1 Kb8 19.Na4 Rd7³

17.Nxe2 Rhe8 18.Rfd1

18.b4 Ne4

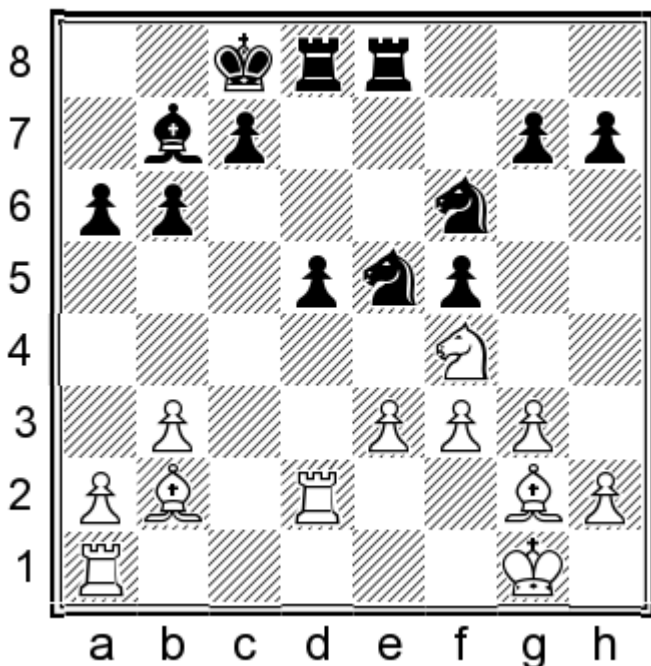
18...Ne4

18...c5!? 19.Rac1 Kb8 20.b4 c4 21.Bxe5+ Rxe5 22.Rxc4 dxc4 23.Rxd8+ Kc7 24.Rf8 Re7 25.Bxb7 Kxb7 26.Nc3 Rd7 27.Kg2 b5³

19.Nf4

19.b4 g6 20.Rac1 Nc4 21.Bd4 f5³

19...f5 20.f3 Nf6 21.Rd2



21.Kf2 g5 22.Nd3 Nxd3+ 23.Rxd3 Rd6 24.b4 g4³; 21.Nd3 Nc6 22.Kf2 Rd6
23.h4 d4 24.exd4 Red8³

**21...d4! 22.Rxd4 Nxf3+ 23.Bxf3 Bxf3 24.Rxd8+ Rxd8 25.Bxf6 gxf6 26.Kf2
Be4 27.Ke1 Rd6**

27...c5! 28.Rc1 a5μ

28.Rc1 a5 29.a3 h6

29...Kd7 30.b4 Rc6 31.Rxc6 Bxc6 32.bxa5 bxa5 33.Kd2 Kd6 34.Ne2 (34.Kc3
Ke5 ... Ke4) 34...Ke5 35.Nd4 Ba4 36.Kd3 c5 37.Nf3+ Kd5 38.Nd2 Bd7³

30.b4 axb4 31.axb4 Kb7 32.Rc3

32.b5 Bd3 33.Nxd3 Rxd3 34.Ke2 Rb3 35.Rc6 Rxb5 36.Rxf6 Rb2+ 37.Kd3
Rxb2 38.Rxf5 Rg2μ

32...Rd7

¹32...c6

33.Ne6

33.b5 Rd6 34.h4³

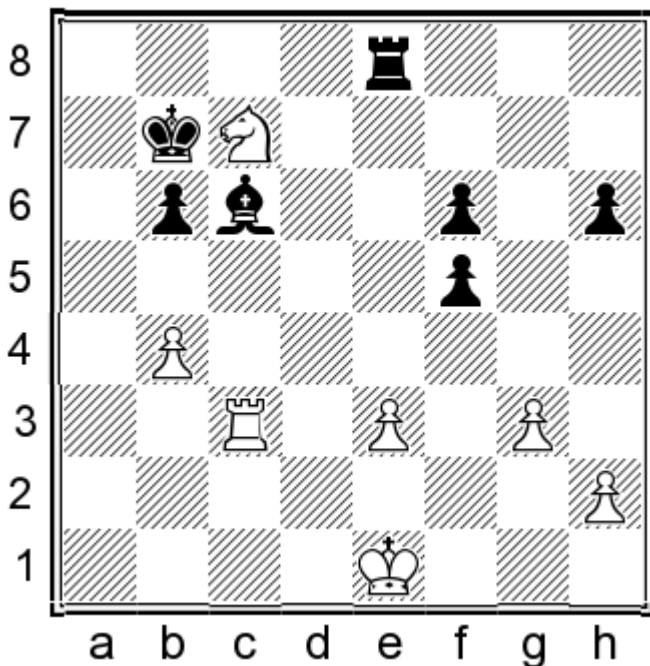
33...Re7 34.Nd4 Re8!? 35.Nb5 Bc6

35...Re5! 36.Nd4 (36.Rxc7+? Kb8- +; 36.Nxc7? b5!- +) 36...c5 37.bxc5

Rxc5 38.Kd2 Ra5 39.h4 Ra2+ 40.Ke1 Rg2 41.Ne2 b5μ

36.Nd4

36.Nxc7



36...Re5! (36...Kxc7 37.b5 Re6 38.h3 Kb7 39.bxc6+ Rxc6 40.Rd3 b5 41.Rd5 Kb6 42.Kd2 =) 37.b5 Bxb5 38.Nxb5 Rxb5 39.Rd3 Kc7³

36...Bd7 37.Ra3 c5

¹37...Re5³

38.bxc5 bxc5 39.Ne2 Bb5 40.Nf4 Kc6 41.Kd2 Rd8+ 42.Kc3 Rd1 43.Ra7 Rc1+ 44.Kd2 Rh1 45.h4 Rg1 46.Rf7 c4

46...Kb6 47.Rxf6+ Ka5 48.Rxh6 Kb4 49.Rb6 Rxc3 50.h5 =

47.Rxf6+ Kc5 48.Kc3 Rc1+?!

48...Bd7 =

49.Kb2 Rg1 50.Rxf5+ Kc6

50...Kb4? 51.Nd5+ + -

51.Rf6+ Kc5 52.Rxh6² Rxc3

¹52...Bc6 53.Rg6 (53.Rh5+ Kb4 =) 53...Be4 54.Re6 Bf3 55.h5 Rh1 56.Re8 Kb4 57.Rb8+ Kc5 58.Rh8 Kb4

53.Rh5+ Kb6†

53...Kb4? 54.Nd5+ + -; ¹53...Kc6 54.Re5 Rg1 55.h5 ±

54.Re5†

54.Nd5+! Kc6 55.Nc3 Ba6 56.Rh6+ Kb7 57.Nd5! Ka7 58.Kc3 + -

54...Rg1 55.h5 Rh1 56.Re6+

56.Kc3 Rc1+ 57.Kd2 Rh1 58.Nd5+ Kb7 59.Kc3 Kc6 60.Nf4 ±

56...Ka5 57.h6?!

57.Re5 Ka4 58.Rg5²

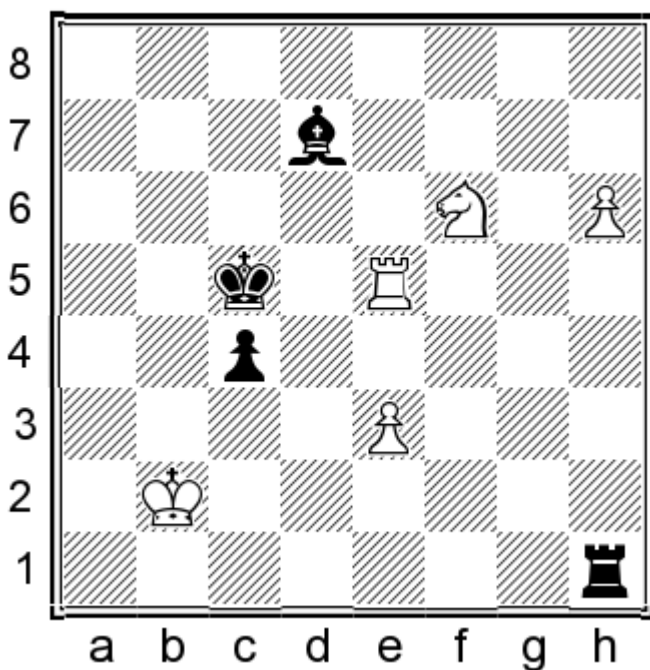
57...Bd7?

57...Kb4! 58.Nd5+ Kc5 =

58.Re5+?!

58.Rd6! Bb5 59.Kc3 Rc1+ 60.Kd2 Rh1 61.Nd5 Ba4 62.Kc3 ±

58...Kb4! 59.Nd5+ Kc5 = 60.Nf6+



60...Kb4! 61.Nxd7 Rxd7?

61...c3+ 62.Kc2 Rh2+ 63.Kd1 Rh1+ =

62.Re4?!

62.Kc2! Rh2+ 63.Kd1 Rh1+ 64.Ke2 Rh2+ 65.Kf3 c3 66.Re8 Kb3 67.Nc5+ Kc4 68.Rc8 +- -

62...Rh2+ 63.Kc1 Kc3 64.Kd1 Rh5?

64...Rd2+ 65.Ke1 Rxd7 =

65.Ne5! Rh1+ 66.Ke2 +- - Rh2+ 67.Kf3 1-0

140. D37

Iljiushenok, Ilia (2534) - Smirnov, Timofey (2414)

Moscow 148/140, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 c5 3.e3 Nc6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Be2

5.Nbd2 - D

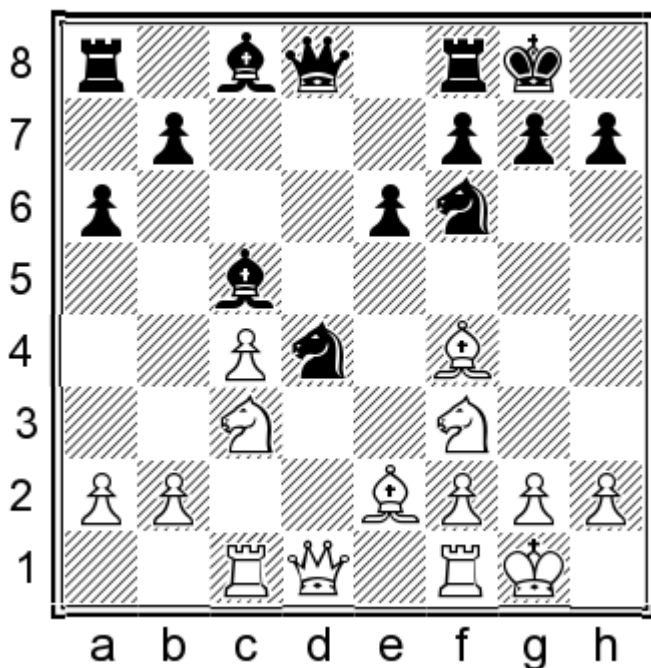
5...e6 6.O-O Bd6 7.dxc5!? Bxc5 8.c4 O-O 9.Nc3 a6

9...dxc4 - 35/(507)

10.Rc1 d4?!

10...dxc4 11.Bxc4 b5 12.Bd3 Be7 13.Ne4 Bb7 14.Nd6!f

11.exd4 Nxd4



12.h3!?N

12.Be5 Nc6; 12.a3!?

12...h6

12...Nxe2+ 13.Qxe2 Bd7 14.Ne5 Bc6 (14...Qc8 15.Rfd1 Bc6 16.Bg5!? (16.a3!?f ... b4) 16...Be7 (16...Nd7? 17.Nxd7 Bxd7 18.Ne4 Ba7 19.Nf6+! + -) 17.Ng4 Rd8 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.Nxf6+ gxf6 20.Qg4+ Kh8 21.Qf4 Kg7 22.Nd5! exd5 23.cxd5 + -; 14...Qe7 15.Bg5 ±) 15.Nxc6 (15.Rfd1 Qb6) 15...bxc6 16.Qf3 ±

13.a3 a5 14.Nxd4 Qxd4 15.Qxd4 Bxd4 16.Nb5 e5

16...Bc5 17.Bf3 ±

17.Nxd4 exf4 18.Bf3 g5 19.c5! Kg7 20.Nb5 h5 21.Nd6 Rb8 22.Rfd1 g4 23.hxg4

23.Be2! Be6 24.Rd4 f3 25.gxf3 gxh3 26.Kh2 ±

23...hxg4 24.Bd5!

24.Be2?! Be6 25.Bc4 (25.Rd4? Rh8! 26.Rxf4 Rh5f ... Rbh8) 25...Rh8,,

24...Nxd5 25.Rxd5 Be6 26.Rd4 f3

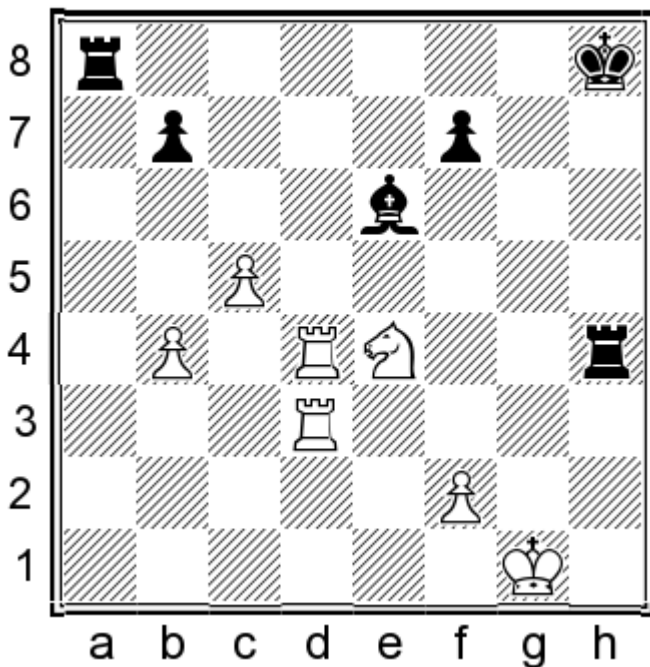
26...Rh8 27.Rxf4 Rh5 28.f3 Rbh8 29.Kf2 ±

27.gxf3 gxf3 28.Rc3 Rh8 29.Rxf3 Rh5 30.Ne4

30.Rg3+ Kf6 31.Rgd3 Rbh8 32.Nxb7 Rh1+ 33.Kg2 Bf5 34.Rd2 R8h2+

35.Kf3 Rh3+ 36.Ke2 Bg6 37.f3 Bh5 38.R4d3 R1h2+ 39.Ke3 Rxf3+ 40.Kd4 Rf4+ 41.Kc3 ± ; 30.b4 axb4 31.axb4 Ra8 32.Rfd3 ±

30...Rh4 31.b4 Kh8 32.Rfd3 axb4 33.axb4 Ra8?!



33...Rg8+ 34.Kf1 Bf5 35.f3 Rh2 36.Rd8 Rb2 37.Rxg8+ Kxg8 38.Rd4 ±

34.Ng5! Rxd4 35.Rxd4 Bb3

35...Rg8 36.Rh4+ Kg7 37.Nxe6+ Kf6+ 38.Kf1 Kxe6 39.Ke2 +- (39.Rh6+ f6 40.Rh4 +- (40.Rh7? b6! 41.cxb6 Rg4! =))

36.Rd7 Rg8 37.f4 Rg6 38.Kf2 Rf6 39.Ke3 b6 40.Rd6 1-0

141. ** D37

Praggnanandhaa, Rameshbabu (2608) - Radjabov, Teimour (2765)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/141, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bf4 O-O 6.e3 Nbd7 7.c5 Nh5 8.Bd3 Nxf4 9.exf4 b6 10.b4 a5 11.a3 c6 12.O-O Qc7 13.g3 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Rxa6

15.Qe2 Ra7 16.f5!?

16.Rab1 - 109/247

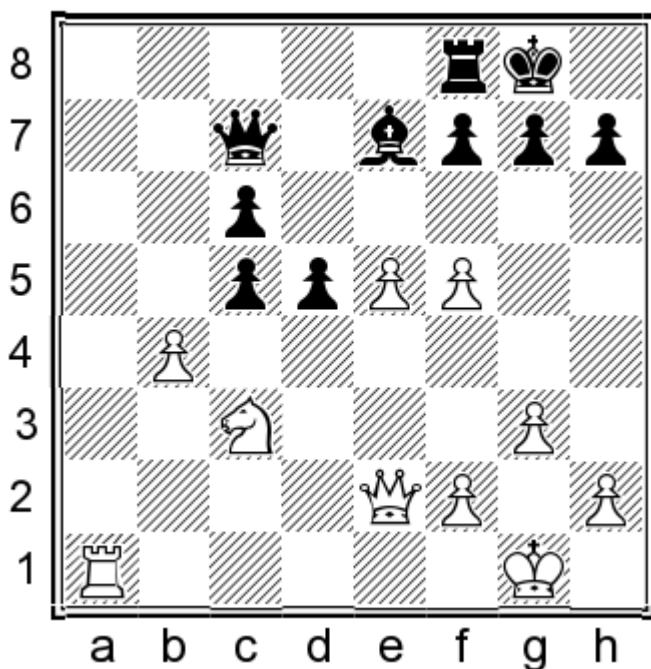
16...axb4

16...e5!? 17.cxb6 (17.dxe5 bxc5 18.bxc5 Re8 19.e6 fxe6 20.Qxe6+ Kf8 21.Rae1 Nxc5 22.Qe2∞) 17...Qxb6 18.dxe5 axb4 19.axb4 Bxb4 20.Rxa7 Qxa7 21.Na2 Ba3 22.Nc1 Qa4 (22...Nc5) 23.Qa2N (23.Nd3 Qe4∞) 23...Ra8 24.Nb3 Bf8 25.Qxa4 Rxa4 26.Re1 Re4 27.Rxe4 dxe4 28.Ng5 Nxe5 29.Nxe4 f6 = Andriuschenko, N-Trofimov, V corr 148/(141) 2020

17.axb4 Rxa1 18.Rxa1 e5 - 148/141

18...bxc5N 19.bxc5 e5 20.dxe5 Bxc5 21.Na4 Re8 22.Nxc5 Nxc5 23.Qe3 Ne4 24.Ra7 Qb8 25.Qa3 (25.Qd4²) 25...h6 = Firouzja, A (2728)-Nakamura, H (2736) chess.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(141) 2020

19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.dxe5 bxc5



21.b5! d4 22.b6! Qxb6 23.Ne4 f6

23...Qd8?! 24.f6 gxf6 25.Qg4+ Kh8 26.Ra7 fxe5 27.Qf5! (27.Rd7? f5!) 27...f6 28.Rd7 Qe8 29.Nd6 (29.Qe6 Bd8∞) 29...Qg6 30.Qxg6 hxg6 31.Rxe7 ±

24.e6N

24.Qc4+ Kh8 25.Qe6 Qd8 26.h3 c4 27.exf6 Bxf6 28.Qxc4 Qd7 ∞; 24.Qa2+ Kh8 25.Qe6 Qb2 (25...Qd8 - 24.Qc4) 26.Rd1 Qb7 27.exf6 Bxf6 28.Nxc5 Qc8 29.Qe4 Re8 30.Qf3f ... Rc1, Ne6

24...Qb5 25.Qa2 Qd3 26.Qa7 Qxe4 27.Qxe7 Qxf5 28.h4 Qg4 29.Ra7 h5 30.Rd7 Ra8??

30...Qd1+ 31.Kg2 Qg4 32.Rd8 Rxd8 33.Qxd8+ Kh7 34.e7 Qe4+ 35.Kh2 Qe2 =

31.Rd8+ Rxd8 32.Qxd8+ Kh7 33.e7 1-0

142. * D38

Martirosyan, Haik M (2620) - Kazakovskiy, Valeriy (2476)

Beograd 148/142, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bf4 c6

6...O-O 7.e3 Bf5 8.Qb3 Nc6 - 144/134

6...Ne4 - 145/127

7.e3 Bf5 8.Qb3

8.Be2 O-O 9.O-O

8...Qb6 9.Nh4 Be6 10.a3N

10.Bd3 - 148/(142) 10...Ne4 11.Qc2 Nf6?N (11...g5 12.Bxb8 Rxb8 13.Nf3²; 11...Nd7) 12.O-O Nbd7 13.Nf5 Bxf5 14.Bxf5 ± Martirosyan,H (2637)- Alekseev,E (2617) tornelo.com (Int. -rapid) 148/(142) 2021

10...Be7 11.Qc2 Qd8

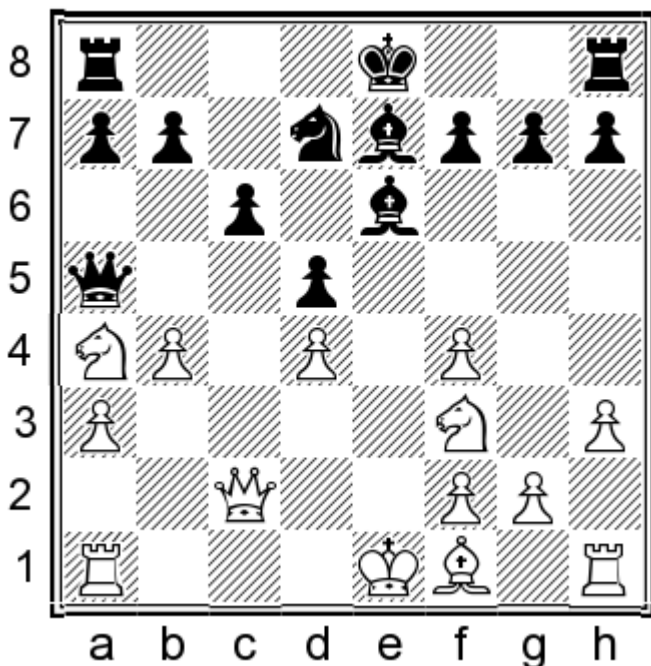
11...Nh5!? 12.Nf3 Nxf4 13.exf4 ∞

12.Na4

12.Nf3 O-O (12...Nh5 13.Bd3 Nxf4 14.exf4f) 13.h3²; 12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.Qxf5 g6 14.Qh3²

12...Nh5 13.Nf3 Nd7 14.h3 Nxf4 15.exf4 Qa5+ 16.Nc3

16.b4



16...Bf5! (16...Qd8? 17.f5 + -) 17.Qxc6 bxc6 18.bxa5 Bd8 19.O-O-O Bxa5
20.Bd3 Bxd3 21.Rxd3 f6 =

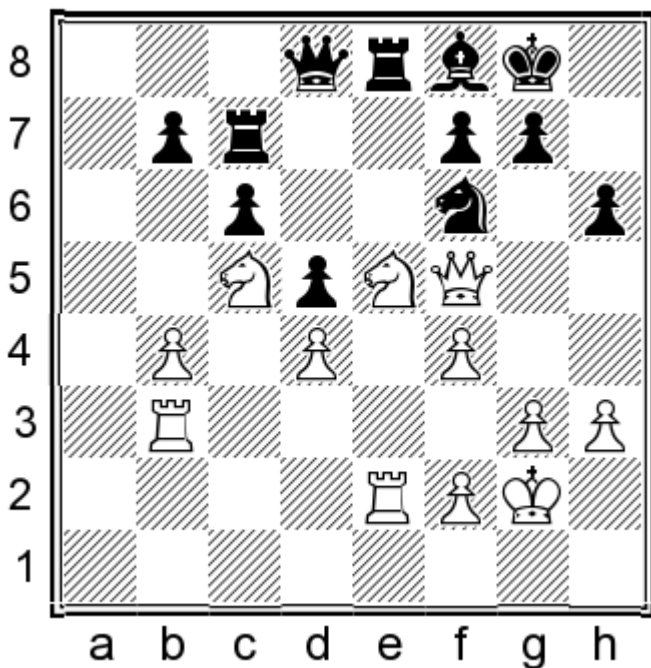
**16...Nf6 17.Bd3 h6 18.O-O O-O 19.Rfe1 Bd6 20.Ne5 Rad8 21.b4 Qb6
22.Red1 Kh8 23.Bf5**

23.Ne2!? a5 24.bxa5 Qxa5 25.Rdb1 Qc7 26.Qb2 Rb8 27.a4²

23...Bxf5 24.Qxf5 a5 25.Rab1 axb4 26.axb4 Qc7 27.Rdc1

27.b5 c5 28.b6 Qe7[∞]

**27...Qe7 28.Re1 Qc7 29.Qd3 Kg8 30.g3 Rfe8 31.Kg2² Ra8 32.Rb3 Rac8
33.Ra1 Qe7 34.Ra7 Bb8 35.Ra2 Bd6 36.Re2 Qd8 37.Na4 Bf8 38.Nc5 Rc7
39.Qf5?!**



39.Rb1²

39...Qc8

39...Ne4! 40.Qh5 Nd6 41.Qg4 b6 42.Na4 Nb5 43.Rbe3 Nxd4 44.Nxf7! Rxe3
45.fxe3 Rxf7 46.exd4 =

40.Qc2 b6 41.Na4 Qa6 42.Nc3 c5 43.Ng4

43.bxc5 bxc5 44.Ng4 Rcc8 =

43...Rxe2 44.Nxf6+ gxf6 45.Nxe2 Qc4 46.Rc3 Qxb4 47.Qf5 c4

47...Qb5 48.Rc2 Qc6 49.Ra2 b5³

48.Qxd5?

48.Rc2 Qd6 49.Nc3 Rd7 50.Re2 Rd8 51.Qg4+ Kh8 52.Qh5 Kg8 53.Qg4+
Kh8 =

48...Qa5

¹48...Qd6μ

49.Qf3?!

49.Qxa5 bxa5 50.f5 a4 51.Rc2 a3 52.Kf3 Bb4 53.Ke4 =

49...b5μ 50.Qg4+

50.Re3 b4 (50...Re7 51.Qg4+ Kh8 52.Rxe7 Bxe7 53.Qd7 Qb4 54.f5 Kg7 (54...Bf8!? 55.Qxf7 Qe7 56.Qxe7 Bxe7 57.Kf3 b4 58.Ke3 b3 59.Kd2 Bb4+ 60.Kc1 Kg7 61.g4 Be1 62.f3 Kf7 63.Kb2 Ke7 64.Nc3 Kd6 65.f4 Kc6 66.g5 hxg5 67.fxg5 fxg5 68.f6 Bxc3+ 69.Kxc3 Kd6 70.d5 Kd7 71.Kb2 Kd6 72.Kc3 =) 55.Nf4 Qd6 56.Qe8 Bf8 57.Qxb5 Qxd4 58.Qb7 Kg8 59.Qc6 Bc5 60.Qe8+ Bf8 61.Qc6 Bc5 62.Qe8+ Bf8) 51.Re8 f5!µ

50...Kh8 51.Qf5 Qa8+ 52.Kh2 b4 53.Re3 c3 54.Qxf6+ Kg8 55.Qf5 c2 56.Nc1 Qc8µ 1/2-1/2

143. D39

Ter Sahakyan, Samvel (2640) - Gavrilescu, David (2476)

chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/143, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Bg5 Bb4+ 5.Nc3 dxc4 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 b5 8.a4 c6 9.e4 h6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Qb1

11.Be2 O-O 12.e5 Qe7 13.Qb1 a6 14.Nd2 Bb7!? (14...f6 15.exf6 Qxf6 16.O-O (16.Bf3?! - 96/316) 16...Nd7 17.Bf3 Rb8 (17...e5 18.axb5 Rb8 19.Nxc4 cxb5 20.Na5 Rb6 21.Qb4 =) 18.Bxc6 e5 19.axb5 exd4 20.Ne4! Qg6 21.cxd4 axb5 22.Bxb5 Rxb5 23.Qxb5 Qxe4 24.Qxc4+ Kh7 25.Rfc1 Nf6 26.Qc2 =; 14...Nd7 15.Ne4 Rb8!? 16.O-O - 11.Qb1) 15.Ne4 (15.O-O c5! 16.axb5 axb5 17.Rxa8 Bxa8 18.Qxb5 Bxg2! 19.Kxg2 Qg5+ 20.Kh1 Qxd2 21.Qxc4 cxd4 22.cxd4 Nc6³) 15...Nd7 16.Nd6 Nb6 17.O-O Rab8 18.Qc1 (18.axb5 cxb5 19.f4 (... f5) 19...Nd5 20.Qc1 f6 21.Bg4 (21.Bf3 Ba8! 22.Rxa6 fxe5 23.fxe5 Nf4 24.Ra2 Qg5µ) 21...f5 22.Bf3 Rfd8 ... Rd6) 18...Nxa4 19.Bxc4 c5 20.Bb3 (20.Bd3 Rfd8 21.Qc2 Rxd6!? 22.exd6 Qxd6³) 20...cxd4 21.Bxa4 bxa4 22.Rxa4 dxc3 23.Qxc3 Bd5 24.Rxa6 Rb3 25.Qd2 Rfb8f

11...a6 12.Be2

12.Ne5!? Qe7 (12...Qg5 13.g3 O-O 14.Bg2 f6 15.Nf3 Qh5 16.e5 Nd7 17.Nh4©) 13.Be2 (13.g3 Qc7 14.Qb4 (14.Bg2 Nd7 15.Nxd7 Bxd7 16.O-O e5!³) 14...c5! 15.Qxc5 (15.Qa3 b4! 16.cxb4 Qb7µ) 15...Qxc5 16.dxc5 Nd7 17.Nxd7 Bxd7 18.axb5 Bxb5³) 13...Qc7 14.Qb4 Nd7 (14...c5 15.Qa3!? Nd7 16.axb5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Bb7 18.O-O O-O 19.b6! Qxb6 20.Qa5 Qxa5 21.Rxa5 Bxe4 22.Bxc4 Rfd8 23.Rfa1 =) 15.Nxd7 Bxd7 (15...Qxd7 16.Qc5 Bb7 17.Rb1 Rb8 18.O-O Qe7 19.e5 Qxc5 20.dxc5 Ke7 21.Rbd1 ... Rd6=) 16.Qc5 Qd8 17.e5 Qe7 18.Bf3 Qxc5 19.dxc5 Ke7 20.Ke2 Rhb8 21.Rhb1 Ra7 22.axb5 cxb5 23.c6 Be8 24.Ke3 Kd8 25.Kd4 Kc7 26.Kc5 Rb6 27.Rd1 Ra8 28.Ra2 b4 29.cxb4 Rab8 30.Rda1 Bxc6 31.Rxa6 Rb5+ 32.Kd4 Bxf3 33.gxf3 R8b7 34.Rc1 =

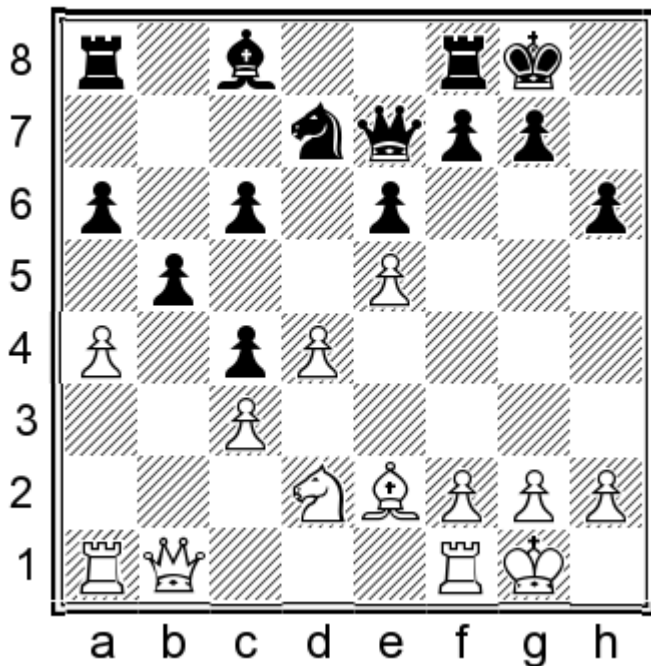
12...O-O

12...Nd7 13.e5 (13.Qb4 Qe7 14.Qa5 Bb7 15.O-O Qd8 16.Qb4 Rb8! 17.Rfb1 Qe7 18.Qa5 c5μ) 13...Qd8 14.Nd2 O-O 15.O-O - 12...0-0

13.O-O Nd7 14.e5 Qe7

14...Qd8!? 15.Nd2 Nb6 16.Bf3 (16.Qc1 f6 17.exf6 Qxf6 18.Bf3 Nd5 19.Re1 Rb8 20.Ne4 Qg6 21.Qd1 Nf4f) 16...Nxa4 17.Qc1 Nb6³ 18.Bxc6 Rb8 19.Ne4 f6! 20.exf6 Qc7 21.fxg7 Kxg7 22.Qe3 Qxc6 23.Qg3+ Kh7 24.Qxb8 Nd7 25.Qd6 Qxe4 26.Qe7+ Kg8 27.Rae1 Qg6 28.Rxe6 Nf6 29.Rb6 Qf5μ ... Nd5

15.Nd2



15...Rb8!?N

15...Nb6 16.Ne4 Nxa4 17.Bxc4 (17.Rxa4 bxa4 18.Nc5 f6! 19.exf6 Qxf6 20.Bxc4 a5³) 17...Nxc3 18.Nxc3 bxc4 19.Ne4 a5 20.Rc1 Ba6 21.Rxa5 Bb5 22.Qa1© ΔQd8 23.Rxa8 Qxa8 24.g3 Qxa1 25.Rxa1 Rd8 26.Nd6 c3 27.Rc1 Ra8 28.Rxc3 Ra4 29.Nxb5 cxb5 30.d5 exd5 31.Rc5 =

16.Ne4

16.axb5 axb5! (16...cxb5 17.Ne4 Rb6 18.Nd6 Rxd6 19.exd6 Qxd6 20.Bf3 e5 21.Rd1 exd4 22.Rxd4 Qc7 23.Qe1 Nc5 24.Rad1 Bb7 25.Bxb7 Qxb7 26.Rd8 Nd3 27.Rxf8+ Kxf8 28.Qe3 Qc6 29.Qd4∞) 17.Ra7 (17.Ne4 c5 - 16.Ne4) 17...Qd8! 18.Ne4 Qb6 19.Qa1 c5 20.Nd6 Bb7 21.Rb1 Ra8! 22.Rxb7 Rxa1 23.Rxa1 Qd8 24.Nxb5 cxd4 25.cxd4 Nb6³

16...c5 17.axb5 axb5 18.Nd6 cxd4

¹18...Bb7 19.f4 (19.Ra7 Bc6μ; 19.Qd1 Bd5 20.f4 f6μ) 19...Bc6 20.Bf3 (20.Ra7 Qd8μ) 20...Bxf3 21.Rxf3 b4 22.dxc5 b3 23.Qe4 Nxc5 24.Qxc4 b2 25.Rb1 Qa7μ

19.cxd4 Bb7 20.Ra7

20.Nxb5!? Bc6 21.Bxc4 Nb6 22.Bd3 Nd5f 23.Rc1 Rb6 24.Rc5 (24.Rxc6 Rxc6 25.Nd6 Rb6 26.Qe1 Rb4 27.Bc4 Rfb8 28.g3 Qd7μ) 24...Rfb8 25.Qd1 (25.Qf1 Nf4μ) 25...Nf4 26.Rxc6 Rxc6 27.Bf1 Rcb6 28.g3 Ng6 29.Nd6 Rb4³

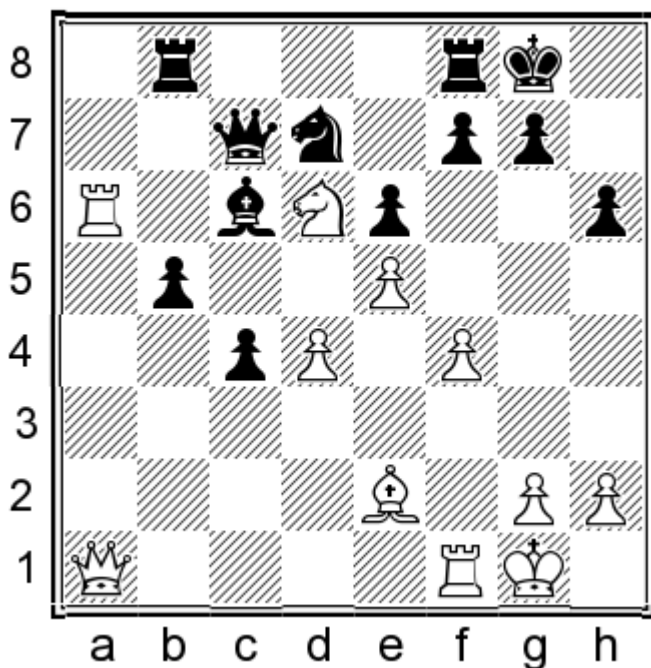
20...Bc6 21.f4 Qd8 22.Qa1

22.Ra3 f5μ

22...Qb6?!

22...Nb6 23.f5 exf5 24.Nxf5 Nc8 25.Ra3 Be4μ

23.Ra6 Qc7



24.Ra7?!

24.f5! exf5 (24...Bd5? 25.f6! ±; 24...Ra8 25.fxe6 fxe6 26.Bg4 Rxf1+ 27.Qxf1 Rxa6 28.Bxe6+ Kh8 29.Qf5 Ra1+ 30.Kf2 Ra2+ 31.Ke3 Ra3+ 32.Kf2 =) 25.Nxf5 Be4 26.Nd6 Bg6 (26...Bd5 27.Bf3 ∞) 27.Ra5 b4 28.Ra7! (28.Bxc4 b3 29.Rb5 Rxb5 30.Bxb5 Qb6³) 28...Qd8 29.Bxc4 b3 30.Qb2 Nxe5 31.dxe5

Qb6+ 32.Qf2 Qxf2+ 33.Kxf2 b2 34.Ba2 =

24...Qb6

24...Qd8!

25.Ra6 Qc7 26.Ra7?!

26.f5! - 24.f5

26...Qd8! 27.h3

27.f5 Bd5 28.fxe6 (28.f6 Nxf6! 29.exf6 Qxd6 30.fxg7 Kxg7 31.Bh5 Rb7- +)

28...Bxe6 29.h3 Nf6! 30.Kh1 Nd5μ

27...Ra8

27...Nb6 28.f5 Nc8 29.f6 Nxa7 30.fxg7 Kxg7 31.Rf4 f5!- +

28.Kh2 Qb6

¹28...Nb6 ... Nd5

29.Rxa8 Rxa8 30.Qb2 Qa5

30...f5!? 31.exf6 Qb8 32.f7+ Kf8 33.Ne8 Kxf7 34.d5 Bxd5 35.Bh5+ g6

36.Bxg6+ Ke7 37.Qg7+ Kd8 38.Qh8 Ra2! 39.Nf6+ Kc7 40.Nxd5+ exd5

41.Qxh6 Ra6³

31.f5?

31.Bf3! c3 32.Qe2 Bxf3 33.Rxf3 Qa4 34.Rg3 Qxd4 35.Qg4 g5 36.Nxb5 Qb6

37.Nxc3 Ra1 38.Ne2 Qb1 39.Re3∞

31...Qa2! 32.Qxa2 Rxa2 33.Bh5?

33.Bf3 Bxf3 34.Rxf3 Rb2 35.fxe6 fxe6 36.Rf7 Nf8 37.Rc7 Ng6 38.Rc5 Nf4

39.Nxb5 Rxg2+ 40.Kh1 Rc2- +

33...Rxg2+ 0-1

144. D44

Martirosyan, Haik M (2620) - Todorovic, Goran M (2406)

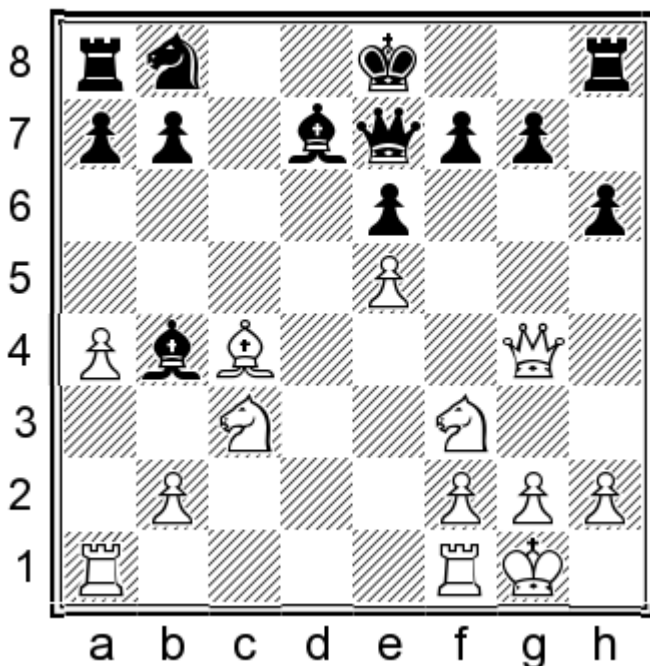
Beograd 148/144, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 c6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.a4 Bb4 7.e4 h6 8.Bxf6

Qxf6 9.Bxc4 c5 10.O-O

10.e5 Qd8 11.O-O - 120/154

10...cxd4 11.e5 Qe7 12.Qxd4 Bd7 13.Qg4



13...Bxc3?!N

13...O-O 14.Ne4 Bc6 15.Rfd1 (15.Nf6+ Kh8 16.Nh5 Rg8 17.Nf4 Nd7 18.Bxe6 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 Nxe5 20.Qe3 Nc6 21.Bd5 Qxe3 22.fxe3 Bd2 23.e4 Be3+ 24.Kh1 Rge8 =) 15...Nd7 16.Bb5 Nxe5!? (16...Bxb5 17.axb5 f5 18.exf6 Nxf6 =) 17.Nxe5 f5 18.Nxc6 (18.Qg3 Bxe4 19.Ng6 Qf6 20.Nxf8 Rxf8©) 18...bxc6 19.Nf6+ Kh8 20.Qe2 Qxf6 21.Bxc6 Rad8 =

14.Qxg7 Qf8 15.Qxf8+ Rxf8 16.bxc3 Nc6 17.a5 Ke7 18.Rfb1 Rab8 19.Bb5 Rfc8 20.Ra3 Be8 21.Kf1 Rc7 22.Bd3 Rbc8 23.Be4 Nd8 24.Rbb3 Bc6 25.Bxc6 Nxc6 26.Ke2 Rg8 27.g3 Rg4 28.Rb5 a6 29.Rc5 Rd7 30.Ke3

30.Nd2! Rd5 (30...f6 31.exf6+ Kxf6 32.f3 Rg8 33.Rb3 Rgd8 34.Ne4+ Kg6 35.Rb6 +-) 31.Rxd5 exd5 32.f4 Rg8 33.Kd3 +- -

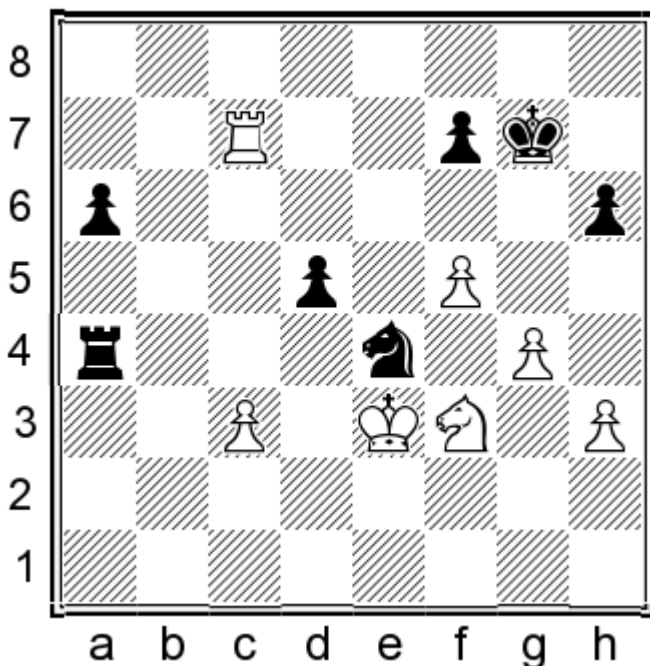
30...Rd5 31.Rxd5 exd5 32.Nd2 Nxe5 33.Rb3 Ra4 34.Rxb7+ Kf8 35.h3 Rxa5 36.f4 Nc6 37.Rb6

37.Nb3 Ra3 38.Rc7 ±

37...Ne7 38.g4 Kg7 39.f5 Ng8

39...Nc8! 40.Rb4 (40.Rc6 Na7,,) 40...Na7 =

40.Nf3 Nf6 41.Rb7 Ra4 42.Ra7 Ne4 43.Rc7



43...Nf6?!

43...Nd6 44.Kd3 Nc4 45.Rd7 Nb2+ 46.Kc2 Nc4 47.Kd3 Nb2+ 48.Kc2 Nc4 49.Kd3 =

44.Kd3 ± Re4 45.Ra7 Nh7

45...Re8 46.g5 hxc5 47.Nxc5 Ne4 48.Rxf7+ Kg8 49.f6 Nxc5 50.Rg7+ Kf8 51.Rxc5 Kf7 52.h4 Re6 53.Rxd5 Rxf6 54.h5 Rf3+ 55.Kd4 Rh3 56.c4 Rh4+ 57.Kc3 Ke6 58.Kb4 Ke7 59.Ra5 Kd7

46.c4 + - Rxc4 47.Ne5 Ra4 48.Rxf7+ Kg8 49.f6 Ra3+ 50.Kd4 Nxf6 51.Rxf6 Rxh3 52.Kxd5 a5 53.Ra6 a4 54.Rxa4 h5 55.g5 Rg3 56.g6 1-0

145. D44

Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2625) - Shirov, Alexei (2662)

torneo.com (Int.-blitz) 148/145, 2020

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 dxc4 7.e4 b5 8.e5 g5 9.Nxc5 hxc5 10.Bxc5 Nbd7 11.g3 Bb7 12.Bg2 Qb6 13.exf6 O-O-O 14.O-O c5 15.d5 b4 16.Na4 Qb5

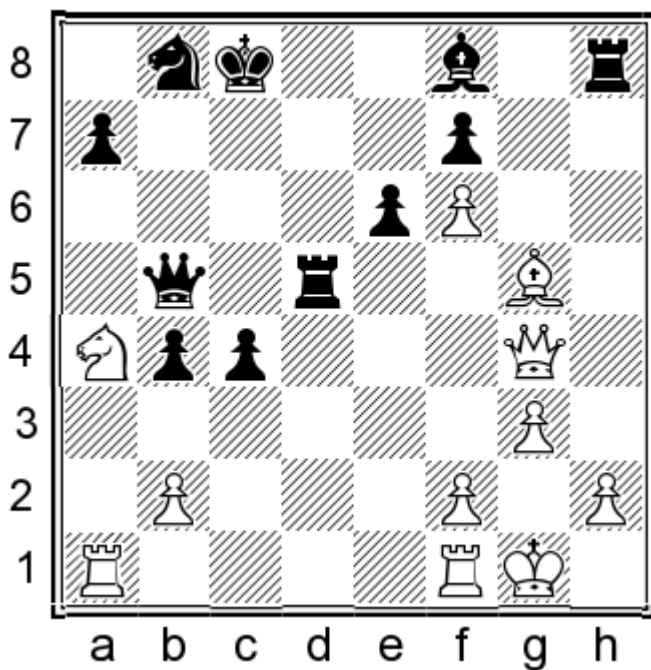
16...Qa6 17.a3 Bxd5 18.Bxd5 Ne5 19.Qe2 Rxd5 20.axb4 cxb4 21.Nc3 Qd6 (21...Ra5?! 22.Rxa5 Qxa5 23.Ne4 Nd3 24.b3! Qe5 25.Rd1 Qb2 26.Qf1! ± (26.Qe3 - 73/490) Δ26...Qxb3 27.Nd2 + -) 22.Nxd5 Qxd5 23.f3 Bc5+ 24.Be3 Nd3 25.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 26.Kh1 Qd4 (26...a5 27.b3 ±; 26...Rd8!? 27.Ra6 b3 ∞)

27.b3 cxb3 28.Rxa7 Qxa7 29.Qxd3 Qa2 (29...Qa3 30.Rb1 b2 31.Qc4+ Kb8 32.Qe2²) 30.Qc4+ (30.Rc1+ - 113/161) 30...Kb7 31.Qxb4+ Ka6 32.h4 Rc8 =

17.a3 Nb8 18.axb4 cxb4 19.Qg4 Bxd5 20.Bxd5

20.Rfc1 Nc6 21.Bxd5 Rxd5 22.Rxc4 Rxc4 (22...Kd7?! 23.Rac1! (23.Rd1 - 58/464) 23...Rxc4 24.Qe4 Nd8 25.Qa8! ± - 58/463) 23.Qd4 Kb8 24.Rxc6 Rxc6 25.fxg3 Qxc6 26.Rd1 Qc7 (26...Bh6 27.Nc5 Ka8 28.h4² (28.Qe4 - 43/(525))) 27.b3 Kc8 28.Qe3 Kb8 29.Qd2 Bc5+ 30.Nxc5 Qxc5+ 31.Qd4 Qc3 32.Qxc3 (32.g4!? Rc8! (32...Rg8?! - 143/(139)) 33.Qf4+ e5 34.Qe4 a5,,) 32...bxc3 33.Rc1 Rc8 34.Kf2 Rc5 35.Ke3 Kc7 36.Kd3 Kd6 37.Rxc3 Rf5 38.Ke4 Rxf6 39.Rf3 Rh6 40.Rxf7 Rxh2 =

20...Rxd5



21.Rfc1?

21.Be3 Nc6 (21...Nd7!? 22.Bxa7 Kb7 23.Bd4 Bd6 24.h4 Ra8 ∞) 22.Qe4 Rdh5 23.h4 Qd5 24.Qg2 Rg8 25.Rfd1 Qxc2+ 26.Kxc2 Rxh4 27.Rac1 ∞

21...Rxc5!

21...Nc6 - 20.Rfc1

22.Rxc4+ Kb7 23.Qe4+ Rd5 24.Rac1N

24.Qc2 Bd6 25.Rc1 Nd7- + ; 24.b3

24...Qxa4! 25.Rc7+ Ka8- + 26.Rc8 Bh6! 27.Rxh8 Bxc1 28.Qc4 Qd7
29.Kg2 Bxb2 0-1

146. D45

Sturt, Raven (2490) - Martirosyan, Haik M (2620)

Beograd 148/146, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 c6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Be2 Be7

6...dxc4 7.a4 (7.Bxc4 b5 - D) 7...Bd6 8.Nd2² - 47/522

7.O-O b6

7...O-O - 49/493

8.b3 Bb7 9.Bb2 O-O 10.Rc1 Rc8 11.Qd3 Qc7N

11...h6

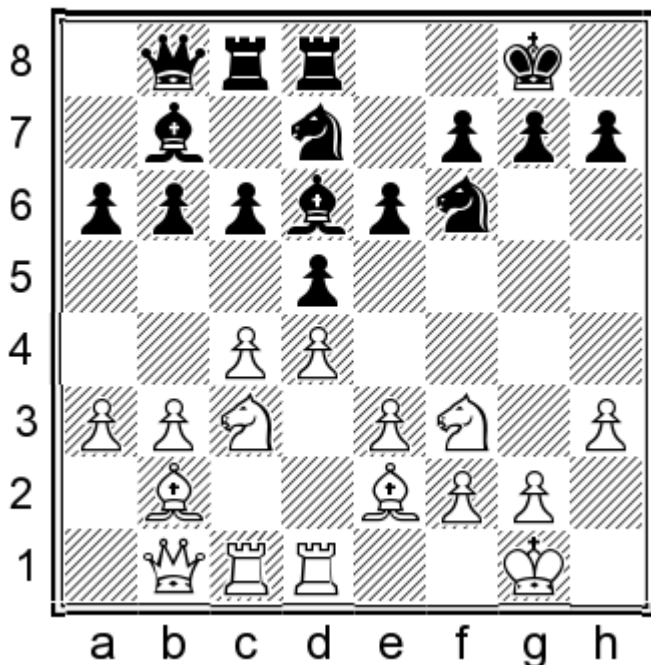
12.Rfd1 Rfd8 13.Qb1

13.cxd5 exd5 14.Qb1!? (14.Qf5 g6 15.Qh3 Bf8 ∞) 14...Qb8 15.Ne5

13...Qb8 14.h3

14.cxd5 cxd5 =

14...a6 15.a3 Bd6



16.cxd5

16.Na4!? c5 (16...b5 17.Nc5 Bxc5 18.dxc5 Nxc5 19.Be5 Qa8 20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.Qb2f) 17.dxc5 bxc5 18.Bxf6 Nxf6 19.b4² Δcxb4?! 20.c5 Bc7 21.axb4 Bc6 22.Nc3 Qb7 23.Nd4 ±

16...exd5

16...cxd5 17.a4 h6 18.Bd3 Bb4 19.Rc2 Rc7 20.Rdc1 Rdc8 21.Na2 Rxc2 22.Rxc2 Bd6 23.Rxc8+ Qxc8 24.Qc2 =

17.Bd3 c5 18.Ne2

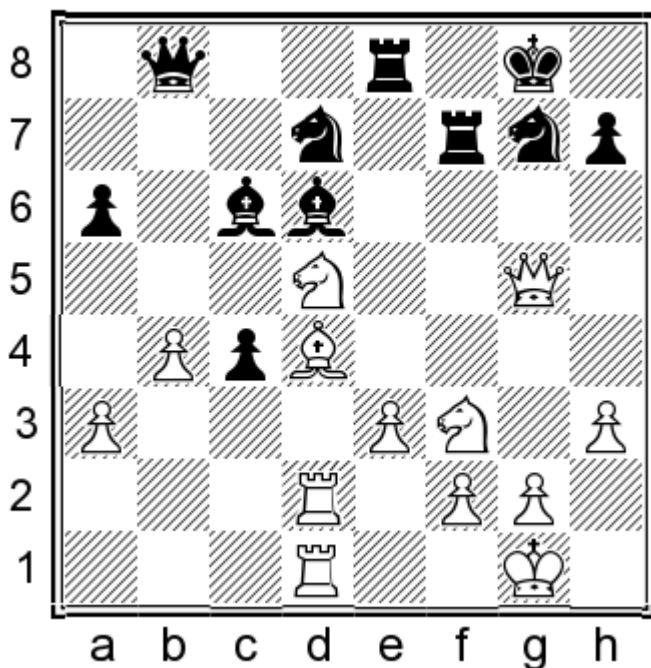
18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Na4 Re8 20.Bf5 Rc7 21.b4 c4 22.Qa1 Bc6 23.Nc5 Nxc5 24.bxc5 Be7 25.Be5 Qa7 26.Nd4 Ba8 27.Bxc7 Qxc7 28.c6 Bxc6 29.Nxc6 Qxc6 =

18...Re8 19.dxc5 bxc5 20.b4 c4 21.Bf5 Rcd8 ∞ 22.Bd4 Bc6 23.Nc3 g6 24.Bc2 Nh5 25.Rd2 Re7 26.Rcd1 f5,,

26...Nhf6²

27.Bxf5!? gxf5 28.Qxf5 Ng7 29.Bxg7

29.Qg5! Rf7 30.Nxd5 Re8



31.Bc3! Re6 (31...Ba4 32.Rc1 Re6 33.Qg4 ±) 32.Qh4 h6 (32...Rxf3 33.gxf3 Qf8 34.Nf4 Bxf4 35.Rxd7 Bxd7 36.Rxd7 Be5 37.Bxe5 Rxe5 38.Qxc4+ ±)

33.Nd4! (33.Qxc4) 33...Bxd5 34.Nxe6 Bh2+ 35.Kh1 Bxe6 36.f4! ±

29...Rf7! 30.Qh5 Rxc7 31.Nd4 Bb7 32.Ne6 Nf6 33.Qh4 Be5?!

33...Be7 ∞

34.Nxc7

34.Nxd8 Qxd8 35.Nxd5! Qf8 36.Nxf6+ Bxf6 37.Qxc4+ Kh8 38.e4 + -

34...Kxc7 35.Ne2 Kf7

35...Rg8!μ

36.Nd4

36.f4 Bc7 37.g4 h6! ∞

36...Rg8³ 37.a4

37.f4 Bxd4 38.Rxd4 c3 39.Rc1 Rc8 = (39...Qc8 40.g4 Rg7 (40...Nxc7?

41.Qh5+! + -) 41.Kh2 Qc6 42.g5 Ne4 43.Rxe4 dxe4 44.Qe1 ∞)

37...Rg6 38.Kf1 Ne4 39.Rc2 Kg8μ 40.Nf3

40.b5 axb5 41.axb5 Bf6 42.Qf4 Qxf4 43.exf4 Bxd4 44.Rxd4 Nd6- +

40...Bd6 41.Nd2 Nxd2+ 42.Rcxd2 c3 43.Rc2 Be5- + 44.Qe7 Bc6 45.Qc5

Bxa4 46.Qxd5+ Kg7 47.Qa2 Qxb4 48.f4 Bxc2 49.Qxc2 Qb2 50.Rc1 Rd6!

51.Ke1 Bf6 52.g4 Rd2 53.Qxb2 Bh4+ 0-1

D50-D74

147. * D52

Radjabov, Teimour (2765) - Duda, Jan Krzysztof (2729)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/147, 2021

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 c6 5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3 Qa5 7.Nd2 Bb4 8.Qc2 dxc4 9.Bxf6 Nxf6 10.Nxc4 Qd5

10...Qc7 - 135/(142)

11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.Qxc3

12.bxc3 c5 =

12...O-O 13.Ne5

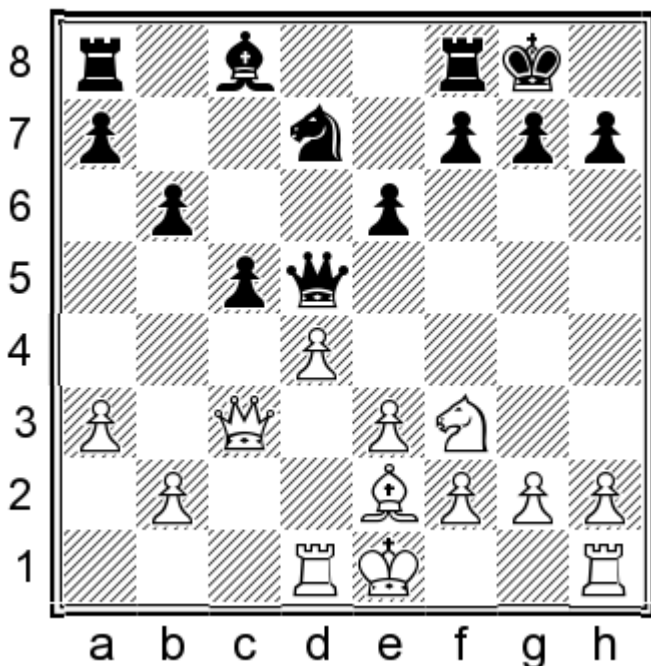
13.Rc1N c5 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.Ne5 Qxc3+ 16.Rxc3 Nd5 17.Rc1 f6 18.Nc4 Bd7 19.Be2 Rfc8 20.O-O Bb5 = Drozdowski,K (2448)-Cheparinov,I (2658) lichess.org (Int.-blitz) 148/(147) 2021

13.f3

13...Nd7 14.Nf3N

14.Nd3

14...c5 15.Rd1 b6 16.Be2



16.Bb5 Nf6 17.dxc5 (17.O-O Ne4 18.Qc2 Bb7 19.dxc5 Qxc5 =) 17...Qxc5
18.Qxc5 bxc5 19.Rd2 Rb8 20.Bd3 Bb7 =

16...Bb7! 17.dxc5 Qc6! 18.cxb6

18.b4 bxc5 19.b5 Qc7 20.O-O a6 21.a4 Rfc8 22.Nd2 Nb6 =

18...Qxc3+ 19.bxc3 Nxb6 20.O-O

20.Rd4 Rfc8 21.Kd2 Rc5 22.Rc1 Rac8©

20...Rac8 21.c4

21.Rc1 Rfd8 22.Rfd1 Rxd1+ 23.Rxd1 Kf8 24.Rc1 Bxf3 25.gxf3 Nc4©

**21...Bxf3 22.gxf3 Nxc4 23.Bxc4 Rxc4 24.Rd7 Ra4 = 25.Rb1 Rxa3 26.Rbb7
a5 27.Ra7 g5 28.Rdb7 a4 29.Rb4 Kg7 30.Raxa4 Rxa4 31.Rxa4 Rc8 32.Kg2
h6 33.Rb4 Rc2 34.Ra4 Rc8 35.Rb4 Rc2 36.Ra4 Rc8 1/2-1/2**

148. D65

Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2625) - Lenderman, Aleksandr (2624)

lichess.org (Internet) 148/148, 2021

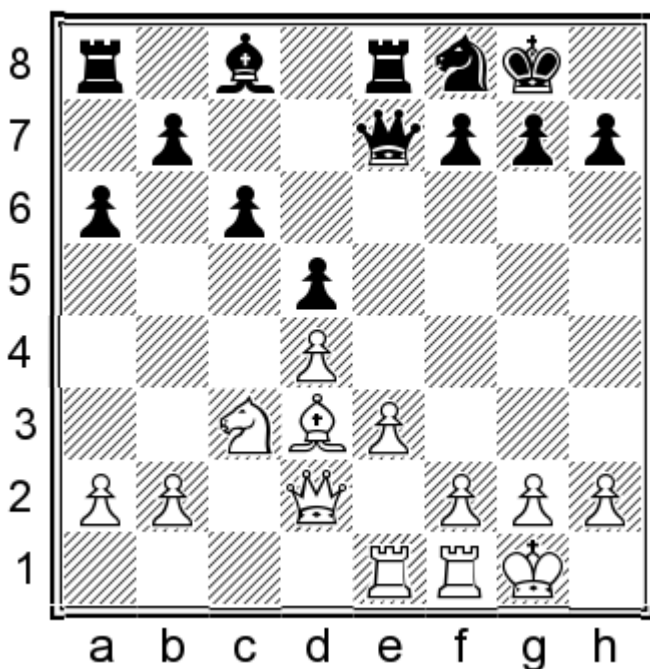
1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 a6 4.Nc3 d5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Qb3 Be7 7.Bg5 c6 8.e3
O-O 9.Bd3 Nbd7 10.Qc2 Re8 11.O-O Nf8 12.Rae1 Ne4 13.Bxe7 Qxe7
14.Nd2!?

14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.Nd2 f5 16.d5 Qd6 (16...Bd7 17.f3 - 30/553; 16...Ng6!? 17.dxc6 bxc6 18.f3 (18.Nc4 a5 ... Ba6) 18...exf3 19.Nxf3 Qc5 20.Nd4 Rb8 21.b3 (21.Qf2 Ne5 22.Qg3 Qf8 23.b3 Rb7 ... Rf7 ∞) 21...f4 22.Qd3 fxe3 23.Rxe3 Bg4,,) 17.Nc4 (17.dxc6 Qxc6 18.f3 b5 19.fxe4 fxe4 20.a3 Bb7 21.Nb3 Qb6 22.Nd4 Nd7,, ... Ne5) 17...Qc7!? (17...Qg6 18.Nb6 Rb8 19.Rc1 Nd7 20.dxc6 Qxc6 21.Qb3+ Kh8 22.Nxd7 Bxd7 23.Rfd1 Be6 24.Qb4 ∞) 18.Rc1 (18.dxc6 b5 19.Nd2 Qxc6 20.f3 Be6 21.fxe4 b4 22.Qa4 Qxa4 23.Nxa4 fxe4 24.b3 Nd7,,) 18...b5 19.d6 (19.Nd2 c5,,) 19...Qd8 20.d7 Bxd7 21.Nd6 Re5 22.Rfd1 Qe7 23.Ne2 Ne6 ∞

14...Nxd2

14...Nd6!? 15.f3 (15.e4 dxe4 16.Ndxe4 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Be6 =) 15...Qf6 16.Nb3 a5 17.a4 (17.Na4 Nc4 18.Bxc4 dxc4 19.Nbc5 Qd8,,) 17...Nf5 18.Qf2 Be6 19.Nc5 (19.g4 Nd6 20.Qg3 Qe7 21.h4 f6 ... Bf7 ∞) 19...Nd6 20.Re2 (20.e4 dxe4 21.fxe4 Qxf2+ 22.Rxf2 b6 23.Nxe6 Nxe6 =) 20...b6 21.Nxe6 Nxe6 (21...Rxe6 22.e4) 22.g4 Qd8 23.f4 Ra7 ∞

15.Qxd2



15...Bd7N

15...Qf6 16.Qc2 (16.e4 dxe4 17.Nxe4 Qd8! 18.Nc5 Rxe1 19.Rxe1 b6 20.Na4 Be6 =; 16.f3 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Qxf5 18.e4 dxe4 19.fxe4 Qd7,,) 16...a5 17.f3 b6 18.Qf2 Bd7 19.Rd1 Rad8 20.h3 Ng6 21.Bc2 Qd6!? 22.e4 Nf4 23.e5 Qh6

24.Ne2 g5!?,; 15...Be6 16.Ne2 Rad8 17.b4 Rd6!? 18.Ng3 Qh4 19.f4 Bc8
20.f5 Nd7! (20...Rh6 21.Rf4!² Qxh2+? 22.Kf2 $\pm$) 21.Rf4 Qd8 22.Qf2 Nf6 ∞

16.f4!?

16.f3 Rad8 17.Na4 Bc8 18.Nc5 Rd6!? 19.b4 Rh6 20.e4 Rd8 ∞ ; 16.b4 b6
17.Qb2 Ng6 18.f4!? Qf6 (18...f5 19.Qb3 Kh8 20.a4²) 19.Qc2 b5 20.f5 Ne7
21.Qf2 ... e4f

16...h6

16...f5 17.Na4 g6 18.Nc5 Bc8 19.Bc2 Nd7 20.Nd3 a5 21.Qc3 Nf6 22.Ne5²

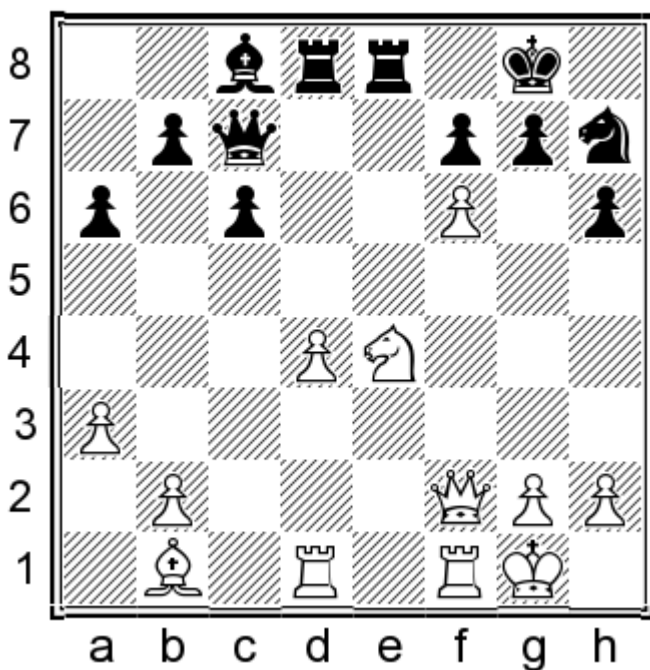
17.e4 Qb4 18.Qf2 dxe4 19.Nxe4 Rad8

19...Bf5!? 20.Nf6+ gxf6 21.Bxf5 Rad8 22.a3 (22.Qg3+ Kh8 23.Qc3 Qb6,,)
22...Qc4 23.Rxe8 Rxe8 24.Qg3+ Kh8 25.Qc3 Qd5 26.Qc5 Qb3,,

20.a3 Qb6 21.f5f Bc8 22.Bb1 Nh7 23.Rd1 Qc7

23...f6?! 24.Ba2+ Kh8 25.Rfe1 $\pm$

24.f6!?



24.Qh4 f6 25.Ba2+ Kh8 26.Qg3! Re7 27.Qxc7 Rxc7 28.Nc5 Nf8 29.b4 Re7
30.h3² Δ Rde8 31.d5 cxd5 32.Bxd5 Kh7 33.Rd4 ... Ne4

24...Rxe4!?

24...Bg4 25.Rde1 Rxe4 26.Rxe4 Nxf6 27.Rf4 Be6 28.Rxf6 gxf6 29.Qxf6 Qd6
30.Rf4 Bc4 31.Qh4²

25.Bxe4 Nxf6 26.Qf4

26.Bb1 Be6 (26...Ng4 27.Qf4²) 27.h3 Rd7 28.Qe3 Qd8 ... Nd5

26...Qxf4 27.Rxf4 Rd6 28.Bc2 Be6 29.h3

29.Rff1 ... Rfe1²

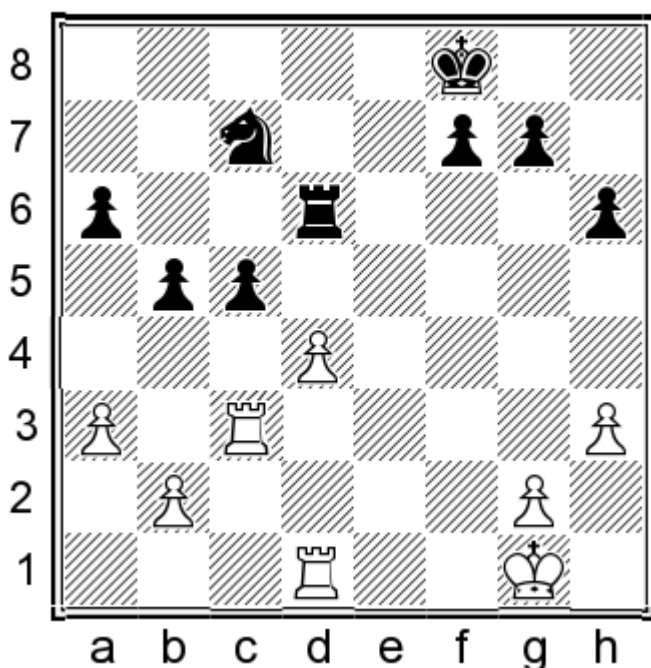
29...Kf8

29...Nh5!? 30.Rf3 g5! ... Nf4

30.Rf3 Nd5 31.Re1 Nc7 32.Bb3 b5 33.Rd1

33.Bxe6 Nxe6 34.Ref1 f6 35.Rd1 Ke7 (35...Rxd4? 36.Rxd4 Nxd4 37.Rd3 Nf5
38.g4 + -; 35...Nxd4? 36.Rfd3 c5 37.b4 ±) 36.Re3 h5 37.h4² Δa5 38.a4! b4
(38...bxa4 39.Re4! g6 40.d5 cxd5 41.Rxa4 d4 42.Rxa5 Rb6 43.Rda1! ±
ΔRxb2? 44.Ra7+ Kd8 45.Rf7 + -) 39.Rc1 Kd7 40.Re4 Rd5 41.Rce1 Rd6
42.Kf2 ±

33...Bxb3 34.Rxb3 c5 35.Rc3?!



35.a4! c4 (35...cxd4 36.Rc1 ±) 36.Rf3 Δg6 37.g4 f6 38.axb5 axb5 39.Ra1!
Ke7 40.Ra7 Kd7 41.b3 Kc6 42.bxc4 bxc4 43.Kf2²

35...Ne6! 36.d5

36.Kf2 Rd5 37.g3 Ke7 38.Re1 c4 39.b3 cxb3 40.Rxb3 Rxd4 =

36...c4 37.a4 Nf4 38.Rc2 Nd3

¹38...g5 39.Kf2 f5 40.Ke3 Rd8 41.Rcd2 Ke7 42.axb5 axb5 43.Ra1 b4 44.d6+ Ke6 45.Ra6 c3 46.d7+ Ke7 47.bxc3 bxc3 48.Rdd6 Rxd7 49.Rxd7+ Kxd7 50.Rxh6 Nxg2+ 51.Kd3 g4 =

39.axb5 axb5 40.b3 Nb4 41.Rcc1 Nd3

41...Rxd5 42.Rxd5 Nxd5 43.bxc4 bxc4 44.Rxc4²

42.Rc2

42.Rc3 Nf4 43.Re3 g5 44.g3 Rxd5 45.Rxd5 Nxd5 46.Re5 Nc7 47.bxc4 bxc4 48.Rc5 Ne6 49.Rxc4 Kg7 50.Kf2 f5 51.h4 gxh4 52.gxh4 Kf6 =

42...Nb4 43.Rcc1 Nd3 44.Rc2 1/2-1/2

D75-D99

149. * D78

Aronian, Levon (2781) - Dubov, Daniil (2710)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/149, 2021

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 c6 4.Bg2 d5 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.O-O O-O 7.Qb3 dxc4
8.Qxc4 b5!?**

8...Bf5 - 133/150

9.Qc2

9.Qb3 Be6 10.Qd1 c5N (10...a5) 11.Nc3 Nc6 12.dxc5 b4 13.Nb5 Bd5
14.Nbd4 (14.Bf4 Qa5 15.a4 bxa3 16.Nc7 (16.Nc3 Qxc5 = 17.Be3 Qd6
18.Bf4 Qc5 =) 16...Rad8 17.Rxa3 Qxc5 18.Qc1 Qxc1 19.Rxc1 Bxf3 20.Bxf3
Nd4 =) 14...Qa5 15.a3 Qxc5 16.Nxc6 Bxc6 17.Bd2 bxa3 18.Rxa3 Rad8
19.Qc1 Qxc1 20.Bxc1 Rd7 21.Ne5 Bxg2 22.Nxd7 (22.Kxg2 Rb7 =) 22...Bxf1
23.Nxf6+ Bxf6 24.Kxf1 Rc8 25.Be3 Bxb2 26.Rxa7 Bf6 = Nakamura,H
(2736)-Dubov,D (2710) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/(149) 2021

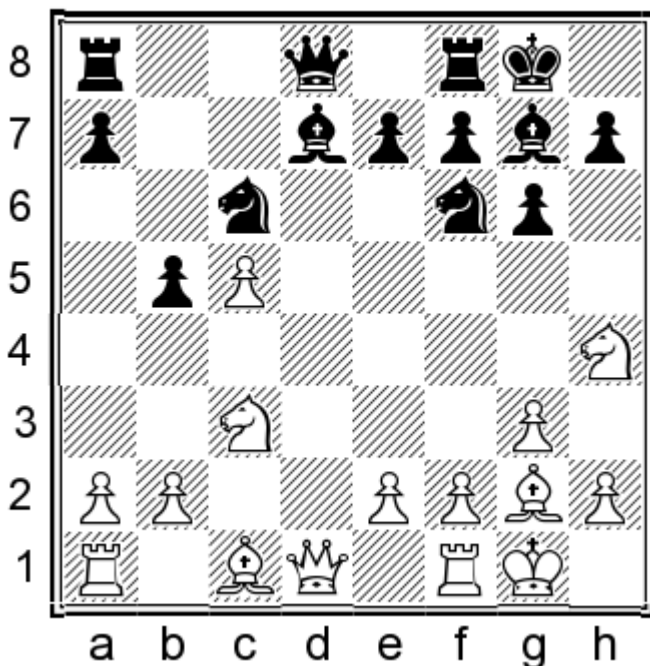
9...Bf5 10.Qd1 c5 11.Nc3 Nc6 12.Nh4

12.dxc5 b4 13.Nb5 Ne4 14.Ng5 Qa5 15.Nxe4 Qxb5 16.e3 Rfd8 17.Qc2 Rac8

12...Bd7

12...cxd4 13.Nxf5 gxf5 14.Bxc6 Rc8 15.Nxb5 Rxc6 16.Qxd4 a6 17.Qxd8
Rxd8©

13.dxc5N



13.Nxb5 Rb8 14.d5 Nxd5 15.Qxd5 Rxb5 16.Rd1 Bg4!μ

13...b4! 14.Ne4

14.Nb5 Rc8 15.a3 a6 16.Nd4 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 b3 (17...bxa3 18.Rxa3 Bb5 19.Qxd8 (19.Qe3 a5©) 19...Rfxd8 20.b4 Nd5 21.Bd2 Nc7 22.Bg5 Nd5©) 18.Nf3 Be6 19.Bf4 Nd7 20.Qe3 Nxc5 21.Be5 Bxe5 22.Qxe5 Qb6 =

14...Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Rc8 16.Nf3 Bh3 17.Re1 Qxd1

17...Qa5!? 18.a3 Rfd8 19.Bd2 Qxc5 20.axb4 Qc4 21.Bd3 Qd5 22.Ba6 Rb8 23.Bc3 Nxb4 =

18.Rxd1 Rfd8 19.Rd3 Rxd3 20.Bxd3 Ne5 21.Nxe5 Bxe5 22.a3

22.Be3 Bxb2 23.Rd1 Kg7 24.Be4 Bc3 =

22...b3

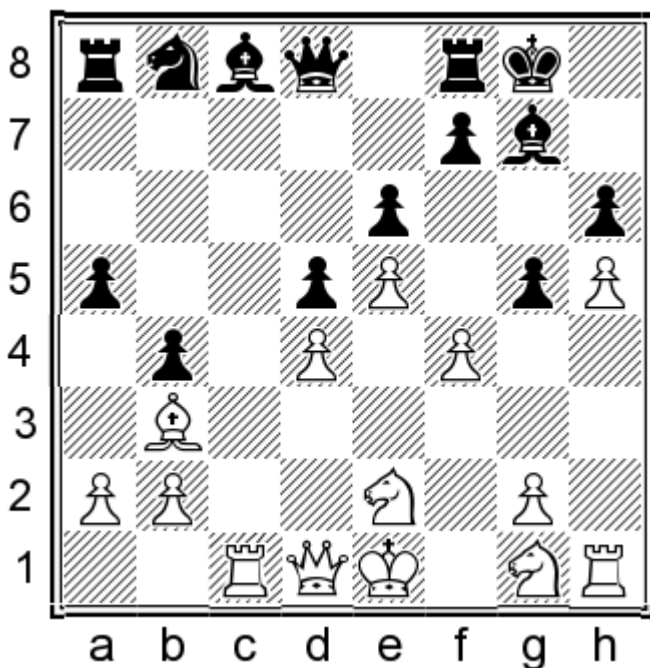
22...bxa3 23.Rxa3 Rxc5 24.Be3 Bd4 25.Bd2 Bxb2 26.Rxa7 Bf6 =

23.Bc4 Rxc5 24.Bxb3 Rc7 25.Bh6 Bxb2 26.Rd1 Rc8 = 27.a4 Bg7 28.Be3 a6 29.f3 h5 30.Kf2 Bf6 31.a5 Kg7 32.Bd5 Rc2 33.Rb1 Bf5 34.Rc1 Rxc1 35.Bxc1 Bc3 36.Bb7 Bxa5 37.Bxa6 Bc3 38.Bc4 Bd7 39.h4 Be5 40.Be3 Bc6 41.Bc5 1/2-1/2

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bg5 Bg7 5.Bxf6 Bxf6 6.cxd5 c6 7.e4 O-O 8.e5
Bg7 9.Bc4 b5 10.Bb3 b4 11.Nce2 cxd5 12.h4 h6 13.Rc1N

13.Nf4 e6 14.Rc1 Qb6 15.Nf3 Nc6 16.Ba4 Na5 (16...Ne7 - 110/(252)) 17.O-O
Ba6 18.Re1 Rac8 ∞

13...a5 14.h5 ± g5 15.f4 e6



15...g4 16.Ng3 ±

16.fxg5

16.Nf3 gxf4 (16...g4 17.Nh2 Nd7 18.Nxg4 ±) 17.Nxf4 Qb6 18.O-O ±;
16.Rxc8! Qxc8 17.fxg5 a4 (17...hxg5 18.h6 Bh8 19.Qd3 Nd7 20.Bc2 + -)
18.Bxa4 Nc6 19.Nf3 Qc7 20.Bb3 + -

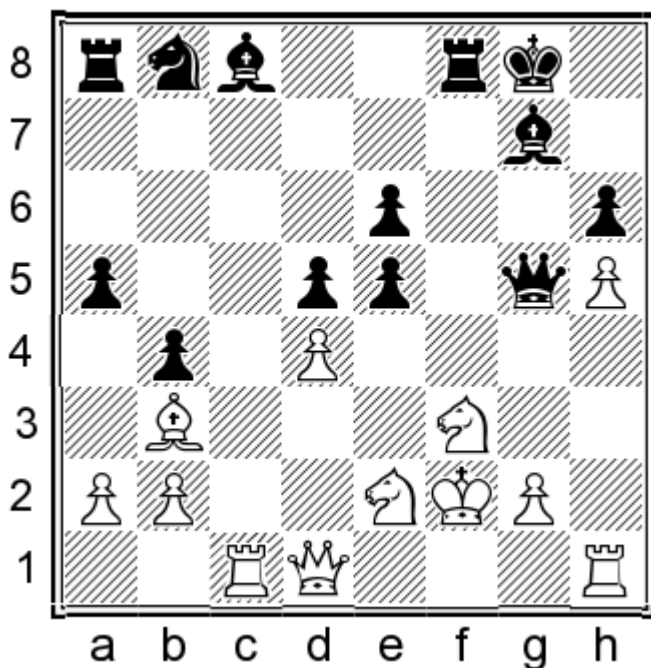
16...Qxg5 17.Kf2

17.Rh3!? Ba6 18.Rg3 Qe7 (18...Qh4 19.Qd2 Kh8 20.Kf2 Bxe2 21.Nxe2 a4
22.Bd1 ±) 19.Nf3 Nd7 20.Qd2 Kh8 21.Rc6 ±

17...f6?

17...Nd7 18.Nf3 Qd8 19.Nf4 Ba6 20.Ba4 Rc8 21.g4 Qe7 22.Rg1 ±; 17...Qd8
18.Nf3 f6 19.exf6 Qxf6 20.Kg1 ±

18.Nf3! +- fxe5



18...Qg4 19.Rh4 +- -

19.Rxc8!

19.Rxc8 Rxc8 20.Nxg5

1-0

151. D83

So, Wesley (2770) - Giri, Anish (2776)

chess24.com (Int.-m1/4-rapid) 148/151, 2021

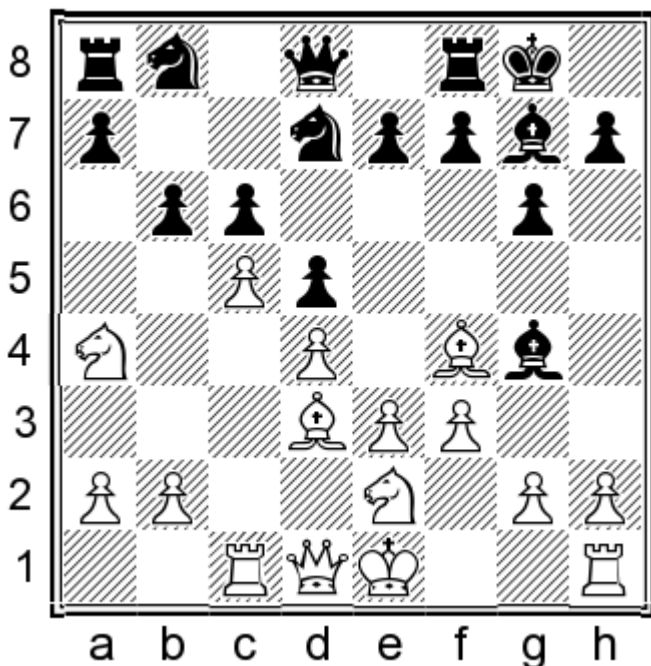
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 O-O 6.Rc1 Be6 7.c5 c6 8.Bd3 Bg4 9.Nge2 b6N

9...Re8 - 125/151

10.Na4

10.b4 Nfd7 11.f3 (11.cxb6 axb6 12.h3 Be6 13.O-O f5 ∞) 11...e5 12.Bg3 Be6 ∞

10...Nfd7 11.f3



11...e5! 12.Bxe5

12.dxe5 Be6 13.Nd4 Nxe5 14.O-O (14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.O-O Nbd7³) 14...Re8
15.Re1 Bc8∞; 12.Bg3 Be6 13.O-O Re8 14.Qd2 f5 15.dxe5 b5 16.Nac3
Nxe5 ∞

**12...Nxe5 13.dxe5 Bc8 14.f4 f6! 15.exf6 Qxf6 16.O-O Qe7 17.Qd2 Re8
18.Rf3**

18.cxb6 Qxe3+ 19.Qxe3 Rxe3 20.Rf3 Re7 21.b3 Bb7 22.bxa7 Rxa7 23.f5
Nd7 24.Rg3 Ra8! 25.fxg6 hxg6 26.Rxg6 (26.h3 Ne5∞) 26...Ne5 27.Rxg7+
Rxg7 28.Bf5 Nf3+ 29.Kf2 Nxh2 30.Be6+ Kf8 31.Nd4 Ng4+ 32.Kg1 Ne3
33.Kf2 Ng4+ =

18...Bg4 19.Rg3 Bxe2 20.Bxe2 Nd7© 21.b4

21.cxb6 axb6 22.Qc2 Qd6 23.Nc3 Re7 24.a3 Rae8 25.Nd1 Nc5 26.Kh1 Ne4
27.Rf3 c5 28.Bb5 Rf8©

21...Nf6 22.Nc3 bxc5 23.bxc5 Rad8

23...Qxc5? 24.Nxd5 Qxd5 25.Bc4 + -

24.f5?

24.Bd3 Qxc5 25.Ne2 Qb6 (25...Qd6 26.Qc2 Nh5 27.Rh3 Rc8∞) 26.Rb1 Qc7
(26...Qc5 27.Rc1 Qb6 =) 27.f5 Bh6 28.Qc3 Qe5 (28...Bxe3+ 29.Kh1 Nh5
30.Rh3→) 29.Qxe5 Rxe5 30.Nf4 Ne4 31.Bxe4 Bxf4 32.exf4 Rxe4 33.fxg6

Rxf4 34.gxh7+ Kxh7 35.Rb7+ Kh6 36.Rxa7 d4 37.Rc7 d3 38.Rxc6+ Kh7
39.Rc7+ Kh6 40.Rc6+ Kh7 =

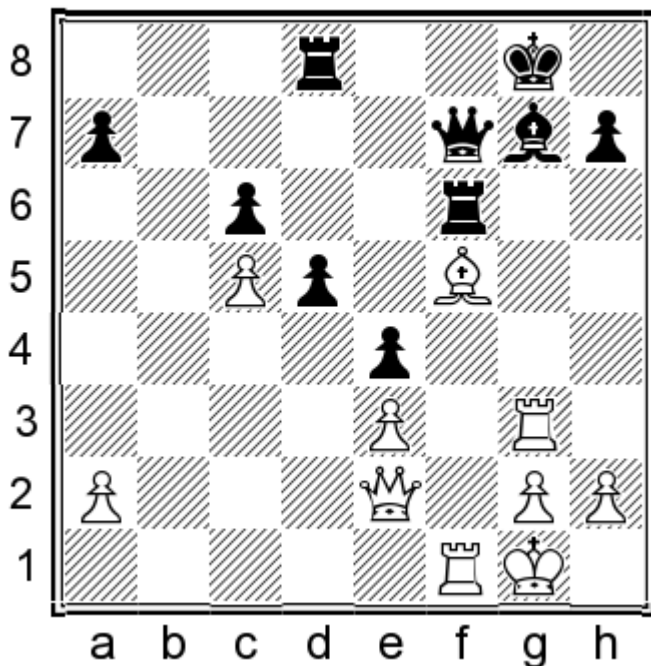
24...gxf5?!

24...Bh6! 25.fxg6 Bxe3+ 26.Rxe3 Qxe3+ 27.Qxe3 Rxe3 28.gxh7+ Kxh7- +

25.Rf1 Ne4

25...Kh8 26.Kh1 Ne4 27.Nxe4 fxe4μ

26.Nxe4 fxe4 27.Bg4 Rf8 28.Bf5 Rf6 29.Qe2 Qf7?!



29...Rh6 30.Qg4 Kh8 31.Rh3 Rf8 32.Rxh6 Bxh6μ

30.Qg4?

30.Rg5! Kh8 31.Rh5 Rh6 32.Rxh6 Bxh6 33.Bxe4 Qe6 34.Bf5 Qxe3+
35.Qxe3 Bxe3+ 36.Kh1 Kg7 37.g4 =

30...Rf8- + 31.Rf2 Kh8 32.Be6 Qe7 33.Bf5 Bh6 34.Rh3 Qe5

34...Qxc5

35.Rf1 Rxf5 36.Rxf5 Rxf5 0-1

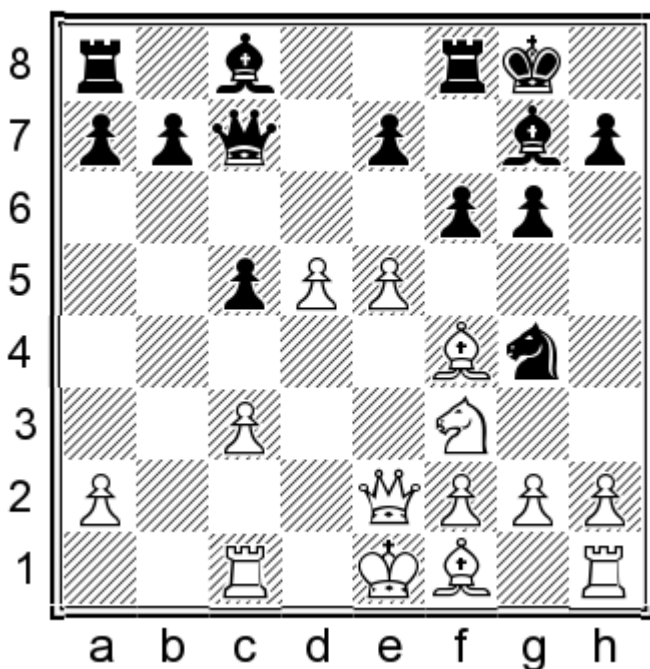
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Be3 c5
8.Qd2 Qa5 9.Rc1 Nd7 10.d5 O-O 11.Nf3 Nf6 12.e5

12.c4 - 128/165

12...Ng4?!

12...Nd7 13.Bf4 (13.Bh6 Nxe5! 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.Bxf8 Kxf8 16.g3 (16.f4?!
Bf6 17.Be2 Bf5 18.O-O Rd8 19.Bf3 c4µ) 16...Kg8 17.h4 b5 18.Bg2 Rb8©)
13...Qc7 14.e6 (14.Qe3 Qa5! 15.Qd2 = (15.Be2 Nb6 16.Qd2 c4 17.d6 exd6
18.exd6 Na4³)) 14...Ne5 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.exf7+ Rxf7 17.Bxe5 Qxe5+
18.Be2 Bd7 (18...e6 19.d6 Bd7 =) 19.O-O Raf8 =

13.Bf4 Qc7 14.Qe2 f6?!



14...Bh6 15.Bxh6 Nxh6 16.h3 f6 (16...e6? 17.Qd2 Nf5 18.g4 exd5 19.gxf5
Bxf5 20.Bg2 + -) 17.Qd2 Kg7 18.Bc4 fxe5 19.Qe2 Nf7 20.O-O Bd7 21.Rfe1²

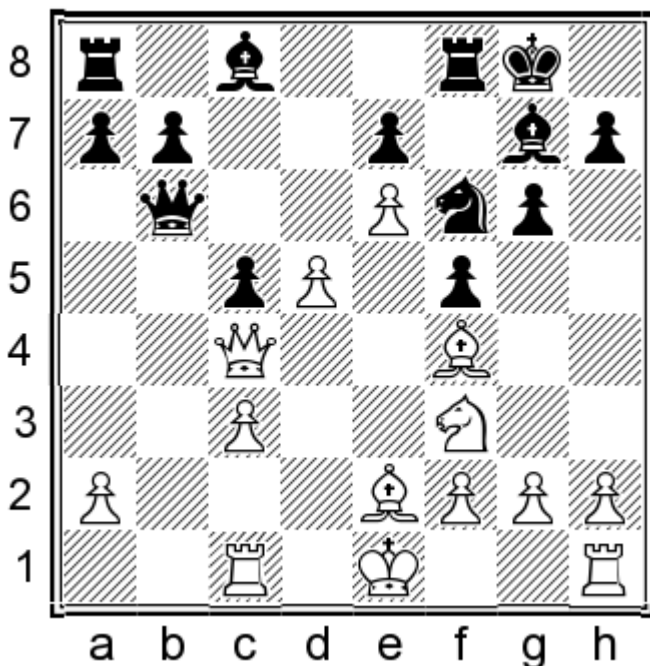
15.Qc4! Qb6N

15...b5? 16.d6+ bxc4 17.Bxc4+ e6 18.dxc7 + -

16.e6 ± f5

16...Qb2 17.Be2 Bh6 18.Bxh6 Nxh6 19.O-O Qb6 20.Rfd1 ±

17.Be2 Nf6



18.d6! Kh8

18...exd6 19.e7+ Rf7 20.Ng5 +-

19.d7 +- Bxd7 20.exd7 Nxd7 21.Ng5 Qf6 22.Qe6 h6 23.h4 Nb6 24.h5! gxf5 25.Rxf5 1-0

153. * D85**

Pragganandhaa, Rameshbabu (2608) - Adhiban, Baskaran (2660)
chess24.com (Int.-m/4-rapid) 148/153, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5 8.Be3 Bg4 9.Qa4+ Nd7

9...Nc6 - 143/(150)

10.Rd1

10.Be2 - 148/(153) 10...O-O 11.Rb1 Nb6 12.Qd1 Qc7N (12...f5) 13.O-O Rfd8 14.Qd2 Bxf3 15.gxf3 e5 16.d5 Nc8 17.f4 Nd6 18.Bd3 c4 19.Bc2 Qa5 20.a4 exf4 21.Bxf4 (21.Bd4 Bxd4 22.Qxd4 Rac8 23.e5 Ne8 24.d6©) 21...Qxc3 22.Qxc3 Bxc3 23.e5 Nc8 24.Rfd1 Nb6 25.Rb5 Nd7 26.e6 fxe6 27.dxe6 Nf6 28.Rxb7 Rxd1+ 29.Bxd1 ± Assaubayeva,B (2378)-Afanasiev,N (2519) Moscow 148/(153) 2021; 10.Qa3; 10.Ne5

10...O-O 11.Be2

11.Qa3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Nb6 13.Be2 Qd6N (13...Bxf3) 14.Qxd6 exd6 15.Nd2 Bxe2 16.Kxe2 f5 17.f3 d5 18.e5 Na4 (18...f4 19.Bf2 Rfc8 20.Nb3 Na4 21.Rd2 Bf8 ∞) 19.Rc1 Rfc8 20.Nb1 Kf7 21.Bd2 Bf8 22.Nc3 Nxc3+ 23.Rxc3 Rxc3 24.Bxc3 Rc8 25.Kd3 b5 26.Rb1 a6 = Pragganandhaa,R (2608)-Adhiban,B (2660) chess24.com (Int.-m/2-rapid) 148/(153) 2021

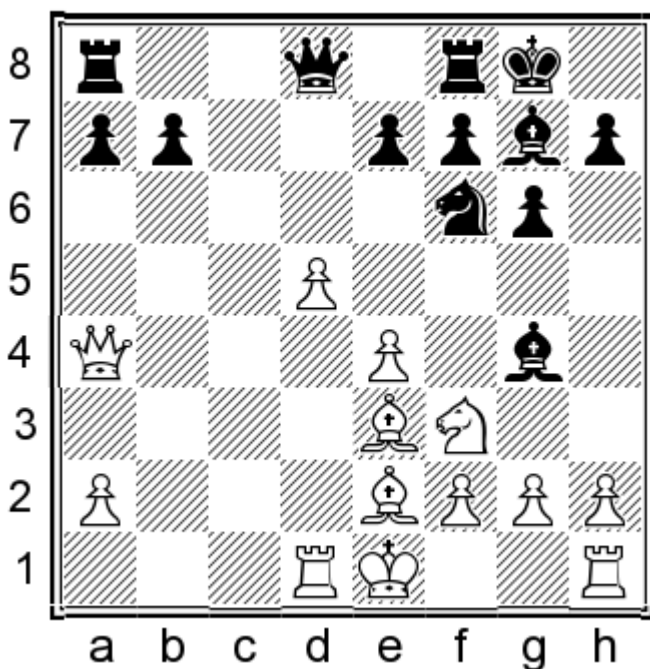
11...cxd4

11...Qc7

12.cxd4 Nf6N

12...Nb6 - 148/(153) 13.Qb3 Rc8 14.O-O Qd6 15.d5 (15.h3 Be6 (15...Bxf3 16.Bxf3 e6 17.e5 Qd7 18.Rc1²) 16.d5 Bd7 17.Rc1 e6 ∞) 15...Rc3 16.Qb1 Rfc8 17.Bd2 Rc2 18.Bb4 Qd7 19.Rd2 Rxd2 20.Bxd2 Nc4 21.Bf4 b5 ∞ Esipenko,A (2701) -Shahade,G (2476) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(153) 2021

13.d5



13...b5! 14.Bxb5

14.Qb4 a5 15.Qb1 b4 ∞

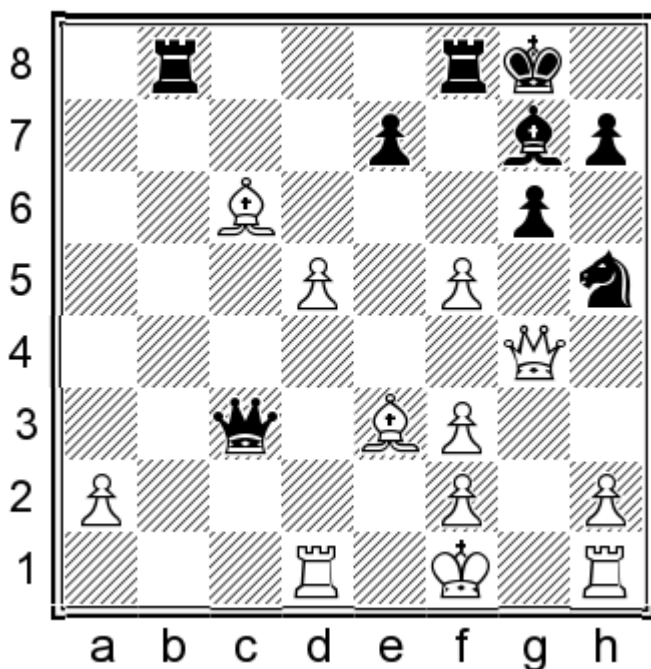
14...Rb8 15.Bc6

15.O-O Nxe4 16.Qxe4 Bxf3 17.Qxf3 Rxb5 =

15...Nh5 16.Qxa7 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Qd6© 18.Qd7

18.O-O Qf6 19.Kg2 Qh4 20.Qd7 Be5 21.Qh3 Nf4+ 22.Bxf4 Qxf4 =

18...Qf6 19.Qg4 Qc3+ 20.Kf1 f5 21.exf5



21...Rb4! 22.Qg5?

22.Qh3 Nf4 (22...Rxf5!?) 23.Bxf4 Rxf4 24.fxg6 hxg6 25.Bd7 Bd4 26.Qe6+ Kg7 27.Rg1 R8f6 28.Qxe7+ Rf7 29.Qe6 R7f6 =

22...Bf6 23.Qg1

23.Qh6 Rh4 24.Kg2 Ng7- +

23...Bd4

23...Nf4 24.Bxf4 Rxf4 25.Qg2 Bh4- +

24.Rxd4

24.Qg5 Rxf5 25.Qxe7 Nf4 26.h4 Qd3+! 27.Rxd3 Rb1+ 28.Bc1 Rxc1+ 29.Qe1 Rxe1+ 30.Kxe1 Nxd3+ 31.Kd2 Ne5- +

24...Rxd4 25.Qg5 Nf4!- + 26.Bxf4 Qxf3 27.Bd2 Rb8 0-1

154. !N D85

Sorokin, Aleksey (2521) - Gledura, Benjamin (2633)

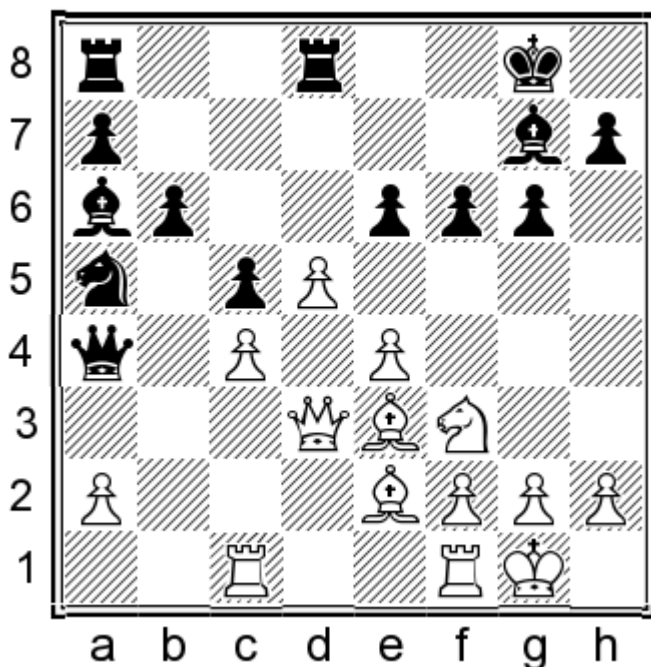
USA (Int.-rapid) 148/154, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5

8.Be3 Qa5 9.Qd2 O-O 10.Rc1 Rd8 11.d5 e6 12.Bg5 f6 13.Be3 Nc6 14.Bd3 b6

14...Ne7 - 141/147

15.O-O Ba6 16.Be2 Qa4 17.c4 Na5 18.Qd3



18...Rd7!N

18...Qxa2 19.h4 Qb3 20.Rc3 Qa4 21.h5 ± ; 18...Rac8 19.h4 ±

19.Nd2 f5! 20.exf5

20.Bg5 fxe4 21.Qh3 exd5 22.Bg4 Rf7 23.cxd5 (23.Be6 Nxc4 24.Bxd5 Nxd2 25.Rfd1 Rf8μ) 23...Bxf1 24.Be6 Re8 25.Rxf1 Nb7 ∞

20...gxf5 21.Qb1 exd5 22.Qxf5 Rf8 23.Qh3

23.Qe6+ Kh8 24.Bxc5 bxc5 25.Qxa6 Qxa2 26.Bg4 Rb7 ∞

23...dxc4?

23...Nxc4 24.Bd3 Bb2 25.Nxc4 Bxc1 26.Ne5 (26.Bxc1 Bxc4 27.Bxc4 dxc4 28.Qe6+ Rff7 29.Qe8+ Rf8 30.Qe6+ Rff7 31.Qe8+ Rf8 32.Qe6+ =) 26...Bxd3 27.Nxd7 Bxe3 28.Qe6+ Kg7 29.Qe7+ Rf7 30.Qe5+ Kg6 31.Qe6+ Kg7 =

24.Ne4

24.Bd1 Qb5 (24...Qc6 25.Bf3 Qc7 26.Ne4 Bc8 27.Ng5 Be5 28.Be4 ±) 25.Bg4

Bc8 26.Be6+ Kh8 27.Nf3 ±

24...Re7 25.Qh4 Re6 26.Rfd1

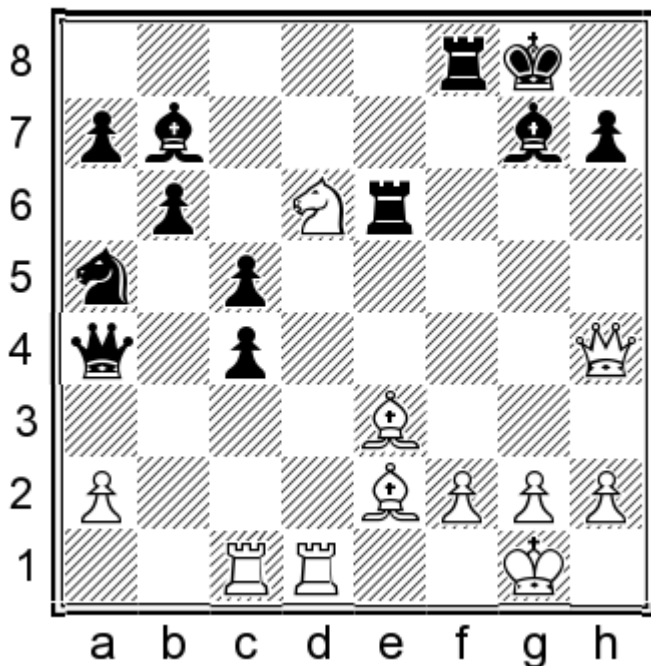
26.Ng5 Rh6 27.Qg3 Bb5 ∞

26...Bb7

26...Qe8 27.Bf3 h6 28.Nd6 Qe7 29.Qxe7 Rxe7 30.Bd5+ Kh8 31.Nxc4 Nxc4

32.Bxc4 Bxc4 33.Rxc4 Rfe8=

27.Nd6?



27.Ng5 Rh6 28.Qg3 c3 29.Bd3 Qh4 ∞

27...Bxg2! 28.Bd3

28.Kxg2 Qc6+ 29.Kg1 Rg6+ 30.Bg4 Rxd6- +

28...cxd3! 29.Qxa4 Rg6- + 30.Qh4 Bf3+ 31.Kf1

31.Bg5 Rxd6 32.Qg3 Rf5- +

31...Be2+ 32.Ke1 Bc3+! 33.Rxc3 Rg1+ 34.Kd2 Rxd1# 0-1

155. D85

Mastrovasilis, Athanasios (2521) - Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2625)

lichess.org (Internet) 148/155, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5
8.Rb1 O-O 9.Be2 b6 10.O-O Qc7 11.Bg5 Bb7 12.Qd3 Ba6

12...e6 13.Qe3 Nd7 14.e5 Rae8 15.Bb5 (15.Bf4 a6 16.Ng5 b5 17.Qh3 h6
18.Nf3 Kh7 19.Ng5+ Kg8 20.Nf3) 15...Bc6 16.Bxc6 Qxc6 17.h4 (17.Bh6 -
106/269) 17...f6 18.exf6 Nxf6 19.Ne5 Qc7 ∞

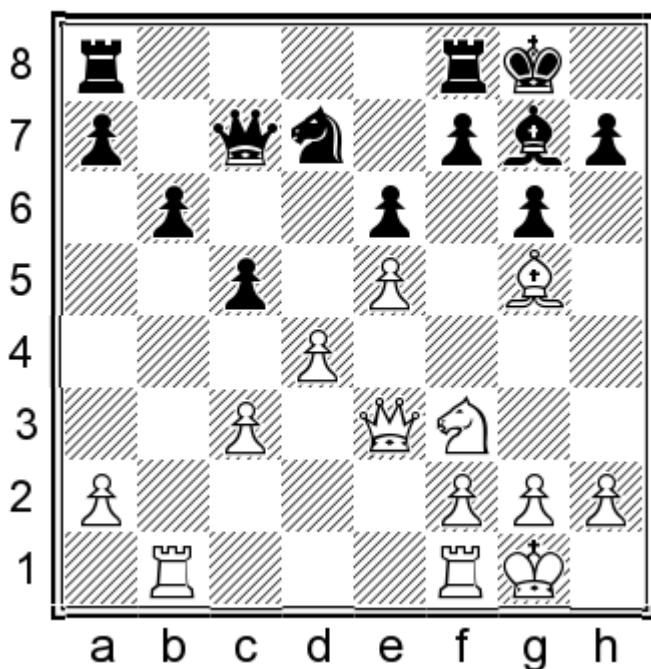
13.Qe3 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 e6

14...Nc6 15.d5 Ne5 16.Bf4 (16.Nd2 c4! 17.Rfd1 e6,,) 16...Nxf3+ 17.Qxf3
Qd7 18.c4 e6 19.Rfe1 Qa4 20.Qb3 Qxb3 21.Rxb3 Rfd8 22.a4²

15.Qe3

15.Rfd1 Nd7 (15...Nc6 16.Qe3 Rac8 17.h4²) 16.e5 Rfc8 17.Nd2 cxd4
18.cxd4 h6 19.Bf4 Qc2 20.Qe3 (20.h4!? Qxa2 21.Qe3 h5 22.Bg5f ΔQd5
23.Ne4 Bf8 24.g4! hxg4 25.h5 Rc4 26.Rd3→) 20...Rc3 21.Qe1 Qxa2 22.Ne4
Rc6 23.Qe3 g5!? 24.Bxg5 (24.Bg3 f5 25.exf6 Nxf6 26.Nxf6+ Bxf6 27.h4
Qd5 28.hxg5 hxg5 29.Be5 Rf8 30.Rd3 Rc2 31.Re1 Kf7 ∞) 24...hxg5 25.Qxg5
Qd5 26.Qg4 Kf8 27.Ng5 f6 ∞

15...Nd7 16.e5



16.Bh6 Nf6 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.Rbc1 Rac8 19.Ne5 Qb7 (19...b5!? 20.Nd3 Nd7
21.h4 h5 22.Rfd1 cxd4 23.cxd4 Qb6,,) 20.f3 Qa6 21.Qd2 Rfd8,,

16...Rfc8

16...cxd4 17.cxd4 Qc2 (17...Rac8 18.h4!? Qc3 19.Qf4 Qd3 20.h5f) 18.Rbc1!
 Qa4 (18...Qxa2 19.Rc7 Qd5 20.Rfc1 $\pm$) 19.Rc7 Rfc8 20.Rfc1²; 16...Qc6
 17.Bh6 b5!? (17...Qa4 18.Rbd1 Qxa2 19.h4f) 18.Rfc1!? (18.Bxg7 Kxg7
 19.Ng5 cxd4 20.cxd4 Nb6 21.Ne4 Rfd8 ∞) 18...c4 19.Nd2 Nb6 20.Bxg7
 Kxg7 21.Ne4 Nd5 22.Qf3²; 16...Rae8!? 17.Rfe1 (17.Bf4 Qc6 18.Nd2 f6,,)
 17...f6 18.exf6 Nxf6 19.Qd3 c4 20.Qd1 Nd5 ∞

17.Nd2!

17.Rfc1 cxd4 18.cxd4 Qb7 ... Qd5 ∞

17.h4!? cxd4 18.cxd4 Qc2 19.h5 gxh5 20.Rbc1 Qf5 21.g4!? (21.Rxc8+ Rxc8
 22.Qa3 f6 23.exf6 Nxf6 24.Qxa7 Nd5 25.Qd7 Rf8 26.Re1 h6 27.Bh4 Nf4,,)
 21...Qxg4+ 22.Kh2 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Nf8 24.Nh4 Ng6TM 25.f3 Qxd4 26.Qxd4
 Bxe5+ 27.Qxe5 Nxe5 28.Bh6 Ng6 29.Ng2²

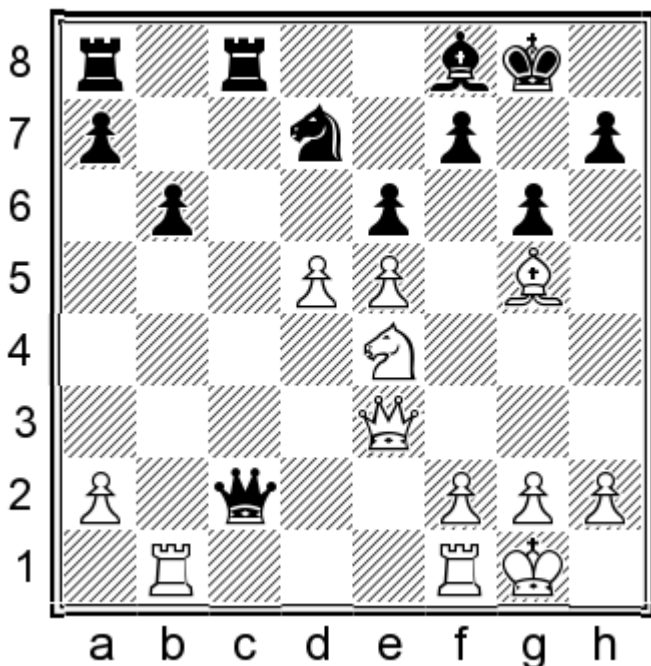
17...cxd4 18.cxd4 Qc2N

18...Qc3 19.Qf4 h6 (19...Qc7 20.Ne4 f6 21.Nd6! fxg5 22.Qf7+ Kh8 23.Qxe6
 h6 24.Qxg6 Nf8 25.Nf7+ Kg8 26.Nxh6+ Kh8 27.Qxg5 $\pm$) 20.Bxh6 Bxh6
 21.Qxh6 Qxd4 22.Nf3 Qg4 23.Rbd1! (23.Ng5?! Qh5! 24.Qxh5 gxh5 25.f4
 Rc2 26.Rbd1 Nf8 27.f5 Rxa2 (27...Re2 28.fxe6 fxe6 29.Rd3²) 28.fxe6 Nxe6
 29.Nxf7 Rc8 30.Nh6+ Kh8 31.Rd3 Rc4 32.Nf5 Re4 33.Rg3 Rg4 =) 23...Nf8
 24.Rd4 Qh5 25.Qe3 Qh8 26.Rfd1 Rc5 27.h4 $\pm$; 18...f6 19.exf6 Nxf6
 20.Qxe6+ Qf7 21.Qxf7+ Kxf7 22.Rfc1 h6 23.Bxf6 Bxf6 24.Nf3 g5 25.h3²

19.Ne4 $\pm$ Bf8

19...Qxa2 20.Nd6 Rc7 21.Rbc1 Rxc1 22.Qxc1! (22.Rxc1 f6²) 22...f6 23.Be3
 Δ Qa4 (23...fxe5 24.Qc6 + -) 24.Qc7 h6 25.d5! Nxe5 26.dxe6 Qc6 27.Rc1
 Qxc7 28.Rxc7 Bf8 29.Ne4 + -

20.d5?



20.Rbd1 Qxa2 21.d5 Bg7 22.Rd2 Qa4 23.Nd6 Rc7 24.Rd4 Qa2 25.Nxf7! Nf8
 26.Nd8! exd5 27.Rd2 Qa5 28.Rfd1 ± ; 20.h4 Qxa2 21.h5 Qd5 22.Qf4 Rc4
 23.Rbd1 f5 24.exf6 Qf5 25.Qh4 gxh5 26.Rfe1 ± ; 20.a3 Bxa3 (20...h6 21.Bf4
 h5 22.Bg5 Qa4 23.Rbd1 Qxa3 24.Rd3 Qa4 25.Qf3 Rc4 26.Nd6! Bxd6
 27.Qxa8+ Bf8 28.d5! exd5 29.e6 + -) 21.h4! a5 22.h5 Bb4 (22...Bf8 23.hxg6
 fxg6 24.Qh3 Qc4 25.Rxb6 + -) 23.Qf3 Qc4 24.Rxb4! Qxb4 25.hxg6 fxg6
 26.Nd6 Rf8 27.Qc6 Ra7 28.Nb5 + -

20...Rc4! ∞

20...exd5 21.e6 fxe6 22.Nd6 (22.Nf6+ Nxf6 23.Qxe6+ Kh8 24.Bxf6+ Bg7
 25.Bxg7+ Kxg7 26.Qe7+ Kg8 =) 22...Bxd6 23.Qxe6+ Kh8 24.Qxd7 Qf5
 25.Qxd6 Qxg5 =

21.Nf6+?!

21.Nd6 Bxd6 22.exd6 e5 (22...exd5 23.Qe7 Qf5 24.Rbe1©) 23.f4 e4 24.f5
 Qd3 25.Qxd3 exd3 26.fxg6 hxg6 27.Rbe1 f6 28.Bxf6 Nxf6 29.Rxf6 Kg7
 30.Ref1 (30.Ree6 d2 31.Rxg6+ Kh7 =) 30...Rd4 31.Rf7+ Kh6 32.R1f3 d2
 33.Rh3+ Kg5 34.Rg3+ Kh6 = ; 21.dxe6 Rxe4 22.exf7+ Kxf7 23.Qh3 Rxe5
 (23...Nxe5? 24.Rbc1 + -) 24.Qxd7+ Kg8 25.Bf6 (25.Bf4 Rf5 26.Qe6+ Rf7 =)
 25...Qf5™ 26.Qc6 Ree8 27.Bb2 Rac8 28.Qa4 Qf7 =

21...Nxf6 22.Bxf6 exd5 23.Rbd1

23.Rbc1 Qe4μ; 23.h4 h5 24.Qf3 Re4μ; 23.Qh3 Rc7 24.e6 Re8 25.Rbe1 Qc6
26.exf7+ Rxf7 27.Rxe8 Qxe8 28.Bd4 Rf4 29.Qd3 Qe4μ

**23...Qxa2 24.Rxd5 Rc1 25.Rdd1 Rxd1 26.Rxd1 Qc2 27.Rc1 Qf5 28.h3 Rc8
29.Ra1 Rc7 30.g4 Qe6 31.Rd1 a5 32.Rd8 Rc8- + 33.Rd4 b5 34.Qd3 b4
35.Qb5 b3 36.Qb7**

36.Qxa5 b2

**36...h6 37.Kh2 g5 38.Rd7 Re8 39.Rd4 Bb4 40.Rxb4 axb4 41.Qxb4 Rc8
42.Qb7 Qc4 43.e6 Qc7+ 44.Qxc7 Rxc7 45.e7 Rxe7 0-1**

156. D85

Grischuk, Alexander (2777) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2774)

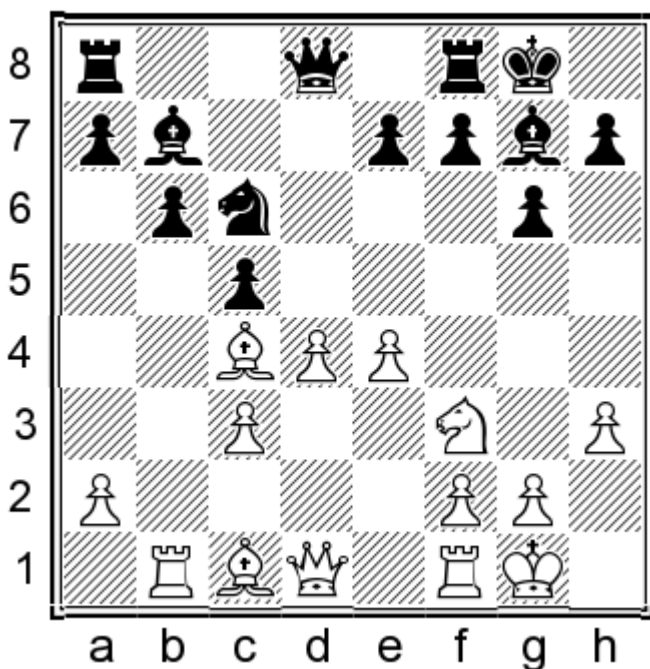
Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/156, 2021

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5
8.Rb1 O-O 9.h3**

9.Be2 - 145/152

9...Nc6

9...b6 10.Bc4! (10.Be3 Bb7 11.Bd3 Nc6 12.Be2 Na5 13.Qd3 (13.Bd3 Nc6 =)
13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Rc8 15.O-O Nc4 16.Bf4 Nd6 17.Nd2 (17.d5?? Rc3- +)
17...Qd7 =) 10...Bb7 (10...Nc6 11.O-O Bb7



12.d5! Na5 13.Be2 Bxc3 14.Qc2 Bg7 15.Bd2 Qc7 16.Rfc1 Rac8 17.Bxa5
 bxa5 18.Qd2 Rfd8 19.Rb5 (19.Qe3²) 19...e6 20.Rbxc5 Qd6 21.Rxc8 Rxc8
 22.Rxc8+ Bxc8 23.Bc4f (23.Qxa5 exd5 24.exd5²) 11.d5! Bxc3+ 12.Bd2 Bg7
 13.h4© (13.Qe2©) 13...Qc8 14.h5 Ba6 (14...Qg4?? 15.Rh4 + - Qxg2??
 16.Bf1) 15.Qe2 Bxc4 16.Qxc4 Qa6 17.Rb5 Nd7 18.a4f; 9...Qa5 10.Bd2
 (10.Rb5 Qxc3+ (10...Qxa2 11.Rxc5²) 11.Bd2 Qa3 12.Rxc5 Be6! (12...Bxd4??
 13.Ra5 Qd6 14.Rd5 + -; 12...Qxa2 13.Bc4 Qa3 14.O-O Nc6 15.Bc1 Qb4
 16.Be3f) 13.Be2? Bxd4 14.Ra5 Qd6 15.Nxd4 Qxd4 16.O-O Nc6μ) 10...Qxa2
 11.Bd3 cxd4 (11...Nc6 12.d5 Ne5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.O-O©) 12.cxd4 Nc6
 13.d5 Ne5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.O-O© Bd7 16.Rxb7 Ba4 17.Qe2 Rfb8 18.Bc4
 Qc2 19.Bd3 Qa2 20.Bc4 Qc2 = 21.Rc1 Qxc1+ 22.Bxc1 Rxb7 23.f4 Bd4+
 24.Kh2∞ (24.Be3∞) 9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa5+ 11.Qd2 (11.Bd2 Qxa2 12.Bd3©
 - 9...Qa5) 11...Qxd2+ 12.Bxd2 b6 13.Bd3 Rd8 14.Rc1 (14.Ke2?! Bxd4
 15.Nxd4 Rxd4³; 14.Be3 Nc6 15.d5 e6 16.Bg5 f6 17.Bb5 Na5 18.Bf4 exd5
 19.Bc7 Rf8 20.exd5 Rf7 21.d6 Bd7∞) 14...Bb7 15.Ke2 Bxd4! 16.Nxd4 Rxd4
 17.Be3 (17.Rc7?? Ba6 18.Bxa6 Rxe4+- +) 17...Ra4 18.Rc7 Ba6 19.Rd1
 Bxd3+ 20.Rxd3 Rxa2+ 21.Kf3 Na6 22.Rxe7 Nc5 23.Bxc5 bxc5 24.Rdd7
 Rf8 =

10.d5 Bxc3+

10...Ne5 11.Nxe5 Bxe5 12.Qc2! (12.Bd2 e6 (12...f5!?) 13.Bc4 a6 14.dxe6
 (14.a4 b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.Bxb5 exd5 17.Bc6 Ba6© (17...dxe4 18.Bxa8
 Qd3©)) 14...fxe6 15.O-O (15.a4? b5μ 16.axb5 axb5 17.Bxb5 Ra2 18.Bc4
 Rxf2! 19.Bxa2 Bg3- +) 15...b5 16.Be2 Bb7 17.Qc2∞) 12...f5 (12...e6
 13.Bc4 ± a6 (13...Qf6 14.O-O! Bxc3 15.Bh6 Rd8 (15...Re8 16.Bb5 Rd8
 17.Qc1 ±) 16.dxe6 fxe6 17.Kh1 Bd4 18.f4 + -) 14.dxe6 fxe6 15.a4 Qf6 16.O-
 O Bxc3 17.Bg5 Qe5 18.Bh6 Rf7 19.Kh1 + -) 13.Bd3! (13.Bh6 Rf7 14.f4 Bg7
 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 = 16.Bc4 fxe4 17.Qxe4 Qd6 18.Qe5+ Qxe5+ 19.fxe5 Rf5
 20.e6 b6 21.g4 Re5+ 22.Kd2 Bb7 23.Rhe1 Rxe1 24.Rxe1 Rd8 25.Ke3 b5
 26.Rf1 bxc4 27.Rf7+ Kh6 28.Rxe7 Bxd5 29.Rd7 Re8 =) 13...f4 14.c4²

11.Bd2 Bxd2+ 12.Qxd2 Nd4 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.Bc4N

14.Qxd4 e6 15.Bc4 exd5 16.Bxd5 Be6 =

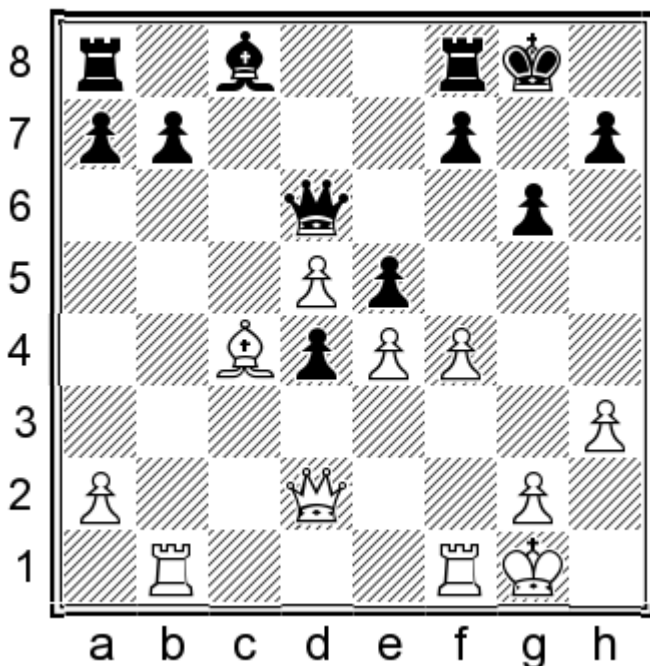
14...e5

14...e6 15.O-O b6 16.Qxd4 (16.f4 Qe7 17.Rf3 Re8 18.Qxd4 exd5 19.Bxd5
 Bb7 =) 16...exd5 17.Bxd5 Bb7 18.Rbc1 Qe7 19.h4 h5! = (19...Rad8 20.h5f)

15.O-O Qd6

15...g5?! 16.Qb4²

16.f4



16...Rb8!

16...Kg7?! 17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.Qf4 f6?! 19.Qxe5 fxe5 20.d6 Rb8 (20...Rd8 21.Rb5 Rxd6 22.Rxe5 Rd7 23.Bd5 +- d3 24.Re8) 21.Rxf8 Kxf8 22.Rb5 Bd7 23.Rxe5 b5 24.Be2 ±

17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.Qf4

18.Rbd1 b5 19.Bb3 Bd7 20.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 21.Rxd4 a5 22.a3 Rfc8 23.d6 Be6 24.Bxe6 fxe6 25.e5 b4 26.axb4 axb4 27.Rb1 b3 28.Rb2 Rc2 29.Rxb3 Rxb3 30.d7 Rb8 =

18...Qxf4 19.Rxf4 Re8

19...Bd7 20.e5 b5 21.Bb3 a5 22.d6 Bf5 23.Rd1 a4 24.Bd5 b4 25.g4 Be6 =

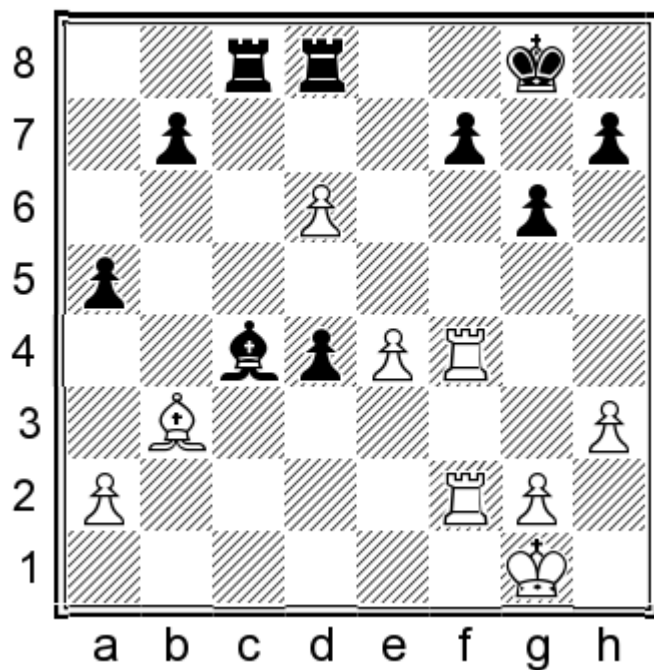
20.Bb5! Rd8 21.Rbf1

21.Bd3 Bd7 22.e5 b5 23.Rxd4 a5 24.Kf2 Re8 25.Re1 b4 = ; 21.Bc4! b5 (21...Re8!?!; 21...Bd7? 22.d6 Be6 23.Bxe6 fxe6 24.e5 b5 25.Rf6 Re8 26.Rc1 d3 27.Kf2 +-) 22.Rxb5 Rxb5 23.Bxb5 Bd7 24.Bc4 Re8²

21...Bd7 22.Bc4 Rbc8 23.Bb3 Bb5

23...a5 24.d6 Be6 =

24.R1f2 a5 25.d6 Bc4



26.Rxf7?

26.Bxc4 Rxc4 27.Rxf7 d3 (27...Rxd6 28.Re7 (28.Rxb7? d3) 28...d3 29.Rff7 d2 30.Rg7+=) 28.Re7 Rxd6 29.Rff7 d2 30.Rg7+=

26...Bxb3?

26...Bxf7! 27.Rxf7 a4 28.Bd5 d3 (28...Kh8 29.d7 Rc7 30.Be6 Rc6 31.Bg4 Kg8 32.Re7 Kf8 33.Rxh7 Rf6! 34.e5 Rf7 35.Rh4 Kg7 36.e6 Re7 37.Bf3 Rxe6 38.Rxd4 b5) 29.Kf2 Rf8 30.Rf3+ Kg7 31.Ke3 Rf6! 32.e5 Re8! 33.d7 Rxf3+ 34.gxf3 Rd8 35.e6 Kf6 36.Kxd3 Ke7μ

27.axb3 Rxd6 28.e5 Rb6 29.Rd7 Rf8 30.Ra2 Rxb3 31.Rxa5 Re3 32.Rb5 Re1+ 33.Kh2 Rf7 34.Rxb7 Rxd7 35.Rxd7 Rxe5 36.Rxd4 Re7 37.Kg1 Kg7 38.Kh2 Rf7 39.Kg1 Re7 40.Kh2 Rf7 1/2-1/2

157. *** D85

Giri, Anish (2780) - Svidler, Peter (2714)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/157, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bd2 Nb6 6.e3 Bg7 7.h4

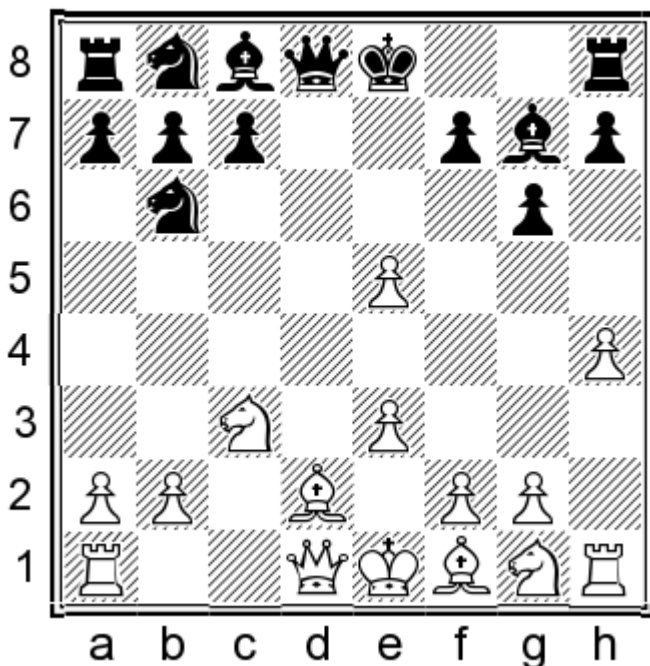
7.f4 - 126/(147)

7...e5N

7...Nc6 - 148/(157) 8.f4 h5 9.Nf3 O-O 10.Ng5 Bg4 11.Be2 Bxe2 12.Qxe2 Nb4 13.Rc1 a5 Petrosyan,M (2628)-Babujian,L (2455) Armenia (ch) 148/(157) 2021 (13...a5 14.f5 Qd7 15.O-O Nc6 16.Nce4±; 13...Qd7 14.Nce4 a5 15.O-O e6 (15...Nxa2 16.Ra1 Nb4 17.f5±) 16.Nc5 Qd5 17.a3 Nc6 18.Rfd1²)7...N8d7 - 148/(157) 8.h5 c5 9.d5 - 148/(157) (9.a4! a5 (9...cxd4 10.exd4 e5 11.d5±) 10.Nf3 cxd4 11.exd4 O-O 12.Bb5²; 9.hxg6N hxg6 10.Rxh8+ Bxh8 11.Nf3 cxd4 12.exd4 Nf6 13.Bb5+ Bd7∞ Ioannidis,E (2411)-Petriashvili,N (2424) chess.com (Int. -blitz) 148/(157) 2021) 9...O-O 10.hxg6 fxg6 11.Nf3 e6 12.dxe6 Ne5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.f4 Bg7 (14...Bxc3 15.Bxc3 Qxd1+ 16.Rxd1 Bxe6 17.Kf2 Bxa2 18.Be2©) 15.Ne4 Qe7 16.Ng5² Badelka,O (2440)-Bivol,A (2377) Chelyabinsk 148/(157) 2021

7...h5

8.dxe5



8...Nc6!

8...Bxe5 9.Nf3 Bg7 10.h5f

9.Nf3

9.h5 Nxe5 10.h6 Bf6 11.Ne4 O-O 12.Nxf6+ (12.Bc3 Bh8 13.Nf3 Bf5 =)
12...Qxf6 13.Bc3 Rd8 14.Qb3 Qe7 ∞

9...Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.h5 Qe7 12.a4 Be6

12...a5 13.Be2 Be6 14.Qc2 O-O ∞

13.a5 Nd7 14.a6 bxa6 15.hxg6 hxg6 16.Rxh8+ Bxh8 17.Bxa6?

17.Rxa6 Nc5 18.Rc6 Be5 19.Ne4! Nxe4 20.Qa4 Bd7 21.Qxe4 Rb8 22.Ra6
Rxb2 23.Bd3 Bd6 24.Qa8+ Qd8 25.Qxd8+ Kxd8 26.Rxa7 Bc6 =

17...Rb8?!

17...Nc5! 18.Qf3 Rd8 19.Qc6+ Kf8 20.Ra5 Rxd2! 21.Qxc5 Rxb2μ

18.Qa4?!

18.Bf1 Nc5 19.Rxa7 Kf8©

18...Rxb2 19.Qa3

19.Be2 Qd6 20.Ne4 Qb6μ

19...Qxa3 20.Rxa3 Nc5- + 21.Bb5+ Kd8 22.Be2 Nb3 23.Rxa7

23.Ne4 Nxd2 24.Nxd2 Ra2- +

23...Be5 24.f4 Bd6 25.Ra8+ Ke7 26.Rb8 Rxd2 27.Bb5 Rc2 28.Ne4 Bb4+ 29.Kd1 Rc1+ 30.Ke2 Bg4+ 31.Kd3 Nc5+ 32.Nxc5 Bxc5 0-1

158. D85

Suleymanli, Aydin Elshan (2512) - Djukic, Nikola (2521)

Podgorica 148/158, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bd2 Nb6 6.Nf3 Bg4!?

6...Bg7 - 120/(164)

7.Bf4N

7.Bg5 Bxf3 (7...Bg7) 8.gxf3 Bg7 9.e3 O-O 10.Bg2 N8d7 11.O-O c6 12.f4²;
7.e3!? Bg7 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 c6 10.Be2 O-O 11.h4²

7...Bxf3 8.gxf3 Bg7 9.e3 O-O 10.Qb3 N8d7 11.Rd1 c6 12.h4 Nf6 13.Be5 e6 14.Be2 Qe7 15.f4

15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.h5 e5 (16...Rad8 17.Ne4 e5 18.Nxf6+ Qxf6 19.dxe5
Qxe5 =) 17.hxg6 hxg6 18.dxe5 Qxe5 =

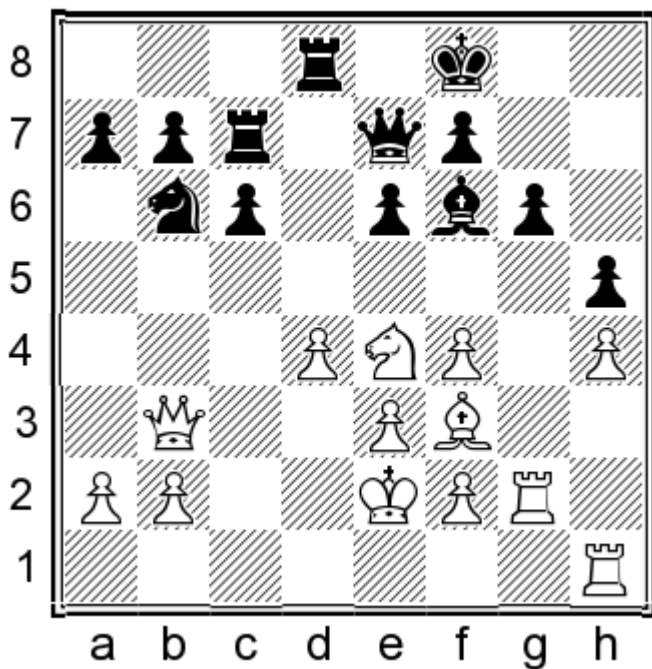
15...h5 = 16.Bf3 Rfd8 17.Ke2 Rd7 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.Ne4 Rc7

¹19...Bg7 20.Rdg1 Nd5 =

20.Rdg1 Kf8?!

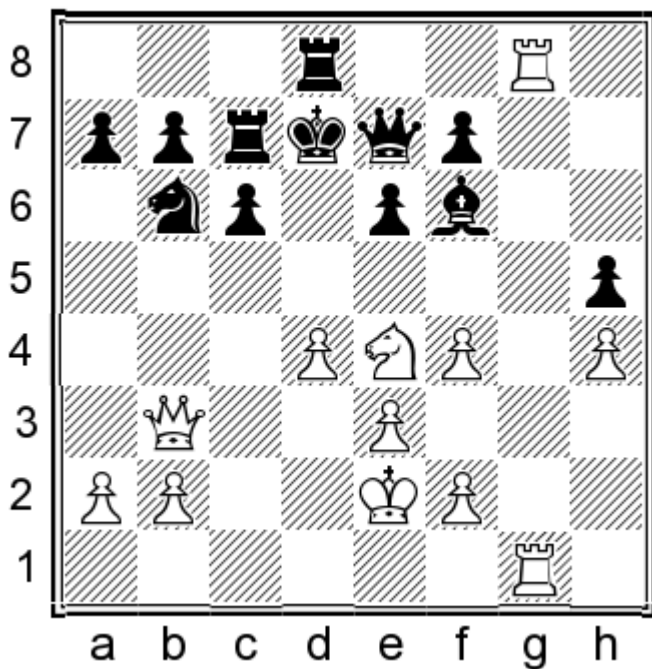
20...Kh8 21.Kf1! Rg8 22.Qd1 Rg7 23.Nxf6 Qxf6 24.Rg5 Nd5 25.Qc2²

21.Rg2 Rd8



22.Bxh5! gxh5 23.Rhg1 Ke8 24.Nc5

24.Rg8+! Kd7



25.Rxd8+! (25.Nc5+? Kc8 26.Rxd8+ Qxd8 27.Nxe6 Qe8 28.Nxc7 Kxc7 29.Kf1 Qd7³) 25...Kxd8 (25...Qxd8 26.Rg8! Qxg8 (26...Qe7 - 25...Kd8) 27.Nxf6+ + -) 26.Rg8+ Kd7 27.Nc5+ Kd6 28.Rb8! Nc8 (28...Bxh4 29.e4 + -; 28...Bxd4 29.Ne4+ Kd7 30.exd4 + -) 29.Nxb7+ Kd7 30.Nc5+ Kd8 31.Qc3 Ke8 32.Qa5 Qd8 33.Na6 Re7 34.Qa4 Qd7 35.Nc5 Qc7 36.Qxa7! (36.Rb7 Qd6 37.Ne4 Rxb7 38.Nxd6+ Nxd6 39.Qxc6+ Ke7 40.b3 $\pm$) 36...Rd7 37.Qa8 Rd8 38.Qb7 Qxb7 39.Nxb7 Bxh4 40.a4 + -

24...Nd7! 25.Nxb7

25.Rg8+? Nf8 μ

25...Nf8?!

25...Rb8? 26.Rg8+ Nf8 27.Nd6+ Qxd6 28.Qxb8+ Qd8 29.Qxd8+ Bxd8 30.Rh8 $\pm$; 25...Rdc8 26.Rg8+ Nf8 27.Nc5 Rd8 28.Ne4 Bxh4 29.Rh8 Rb7 30.Qc3 Qb4 31.Qxc6+ Ke7 32.Rxh5 Rb6 33.Qc7+ Rd7 34.Qc8 Rd8 35.Qc7+ Rd7 =

26.Nxd8 Qxd8 27.Rc1

27.Rg8 Be7 28.Rc1 Qd7 29.Qc4 Bxh4 30.Rh1 Be7 31.Rxh5 f5 32.Rg7²

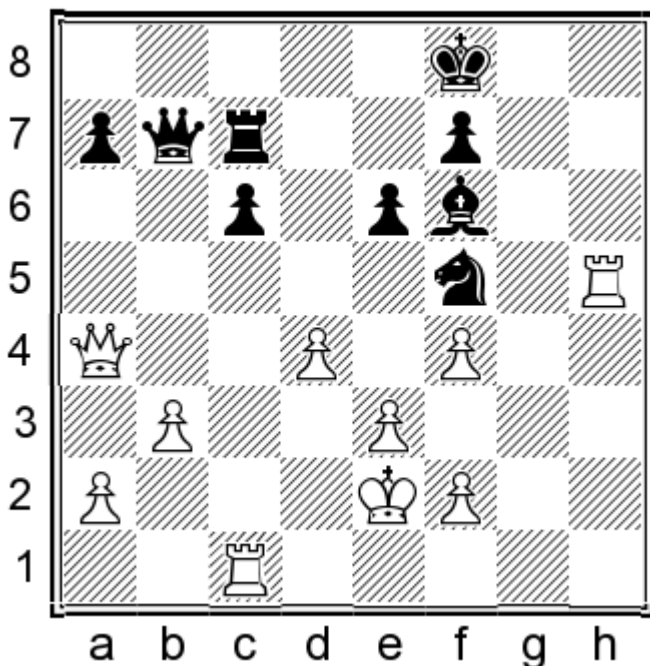
27...Qc8

27...Qd5 28.Qxd5 exd5 29.Rg8 Ke7 30.b4²; 27...Ng6 28.Rc5 Bxd4 29.Rxh5 Kf8 30.Rhg5 Bf6 31.h5 Bxg5 32.Rxg5²

28.Qa4 Ng6 29.Rc5 Qb7 30.b3 Kf8 31.Rg1 Nxh4 32.Rxh5

32.Rgc1 Nf5 33.Rxc6 Rd7 34.Qa6²

32...Nf5 33.Rc1



33...c5! = 34.Rxc5

34.Qa5 Nxd4+ 35.exd4 Qe4+ 36.Kf1 Qd3+ 37.Ke1 (37.Kg2 Qe4+=)
37...Qe4+=

**34...Rxc5 35.dxc5 Ng3+! 36.fxg3 Qg2+ 37.Kd3 Qf1+ 38.Kd2 Qf2+ 39.Kd3
Qf1+ 40.Kd2 Qf2+ 41.Kd3 Qf1+ 1/2-1/2**

159. * D85

Zakhartsov, Vladimir (2496) - Paravyan, David (2647)

Russia 148/159, 2021

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bd2 Bg7 6.e4 Nxc3 7.Bxc3 O-O
8.Qd2 c5 9.d5 Bxc3 10.bxc3 e6 11.Be2**

11.Bc4 - 117/156

11...exd5 12.exd5 Nd7 13.Nf3 Nf6 14.c4

14.Rd1 Ne4 15.Qc1 Qf6 16.Rd3 Re8 17.O-O Nxc3 (17...Nd6 18.Re1 Bg4³)
18.Rxc3 Rxe2 19.Rxc5 Bg4 20.Ng5N (20.Qa3) 20...h6 21.Nxf7! Qxf7
(21...Kxf7? 22.Qc4±) 22.Qc4 Bh5 23.Rc7 Re7 24.Rxe7 Qxe7 25.g4
Berdnyk,M (2289)-Langner,L (2380) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(159) 2021
(25.g4 b5! 26.Qc6 Rd8 27.h3 Qe4 28.gxh5 Rxd5 29.Qa8+ Kg7 30.Qxa7+
Kg8 31.Qa8+ Kg7=)

14...Ne4 15.Qf4N

15.Qh6?! Qa5+ 16.Kf1 Qc3 17.Re1 Bg4μ

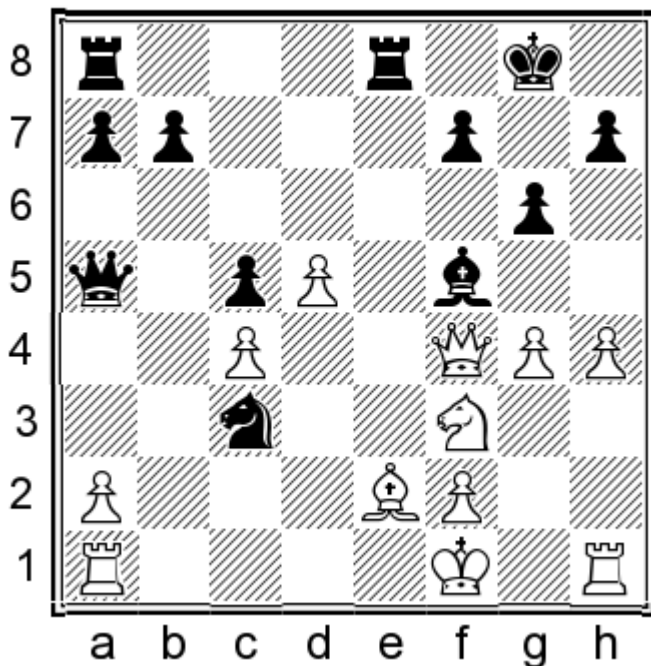
15...Qa5+ 16.Kf1 Re8 17.h4?!

17.g4 Qc3 18.Re1 b5! 19.Kg2 Bb7μ

17...Bf5?

17...h5 18.g3 Bf5 19.Bd1 Qa3μ

18.g4 Nc3?



18...Bd7 19.Kg2 Qc3 20.Rhe1 b6 21.Bf1²

19.Qh6! Qb6 20.Ng5 Qf6 21.Qxh7+ Kf8 22.Qh6+

22.gxf5! Nxe2 23.Qh6+ Qg7 24.Qxg7+ Kxg7 - 22.Qh6

22...Qg7

¹22...Ke7 23.gxf5 Rh8 24.Nh7 Rxh7 25.Qe3+ Kf8 26.Re1 ±

23.Qxg7+ Kxg7 24.gxf5 Nxe2 25.fxg6 Kxg6 26.Re1

26.Rh3 Nd4 27.Rg3 Nf5 28.Rg4 + -

26...Nd4 27.Rg1 Rxe1+ 28.Kxe1 Kf6 29.Kd2 Rh8 30.Rg4

30.Ne4+ Ke5 31.Kd3 Nf3 32.Rh1 b6 33.Ke3 Rxh4 34.Rxh4 Nxh4 35.f4+ Kf5

36.Nd6+ Kf6 37.Nc8 +-

30...b6 31.Rf4+ Nf5 32.Nxf7! Rxh4 33.Rxh4 Nxh4 34.Nd8?!

34.Nd6! Ke5 35.Nc8 Kd4 36.Nxa7 +-

34...Nf5 35.Nc6 Nd6 36.Kd3 a5

36...Nc8 37.a4 Kf5 38.Nd8 +-

37.a4 Kf5 38.Na7

38.Nb8! Kf4 39.Nd7 Nc8 40.Nf6 Nd6 41.Kc3 Kf3 42.Nd7 Nc8 43.Ne5+ Kxf2
44.Nf7 +-

38...Ke5?!

38...Kf4 39.Nb5 Nf7 40.Ke2 Ke4 41.f3+ Kf4 42.d6 Ne5 43.Nc7 ±

**39.Nb5 Ne4 40.Ke3 Kf5 41.f4 Nf6 42.Nd6+ Kg4 43.Nc8 b5 44.cxb5 Nxd5+
45.Kd3 Kxf4 46.b6 Ke5 47.b7 Nb4+ 48.Kc4 Na6 49.Kb5! Nb8 50.Kxc5 Ke6
51.Kb6 Kd7 52.Ka7 Kc7 53.Ne7 Nd7 54.Nd5+ Kc6 55.Nf6 1-0**

160. D87

Sjugirov, Sanan (2663) - Paravyan, David (2647)

Russia 148/160, 2021

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 c5
8.Ne2 Nc6 9.Be3 O-O 10.O-O Bg4 11.f3 Na5 12.Bxf7+ Rxf7 13.fxg4 Rxf1+
14.Kxf1 Nc4**

14...Qd6 - 144/159

15.Bf2

15.Qb3!? b5 16.Kg1 a6 (16...Kh8?! 17.Bf2 a6 18.a4 ±) 17.Bf2 Qd7 18.h3 Rf8
19.Rd1²

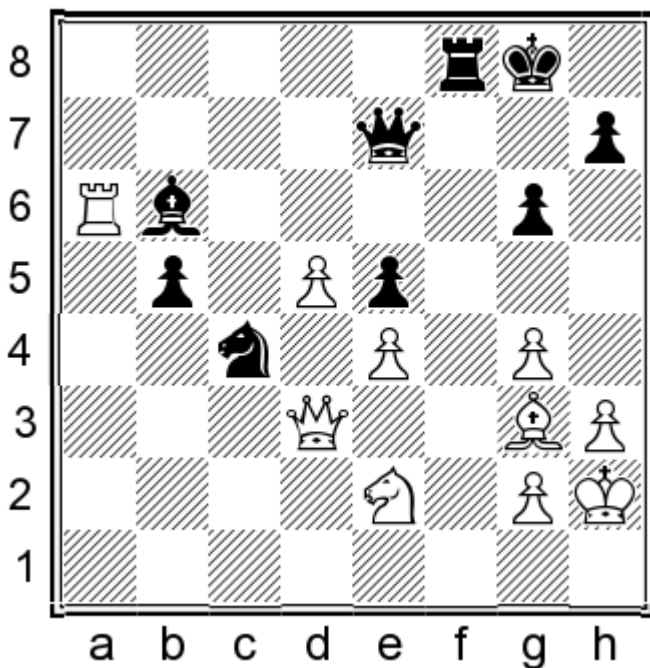
15...b5 16.Kg1 cxd4 17.cxd4 Qd7 18.h3 Rf8 19.a4 Bh6N

19...a6 20.axb5 axb5 21.g5 e6 22.e5 Qb7 23.Qc2 ±

20.Qd3 a6 21.axb5 axb5 22.Bg3

22.d5 Qd6 23.Bd4 e5 24.dxe6 Qxe6 25.Nc3²

22...e5 23.d5 Be3+ 24.Kh2 Qe7 25.Ra6 Bb6



26.d6!

26.Rxb6!? Nxb6 27.Qxb5 Nc8 28.Ng1! Nd6 29.Qb4 ±

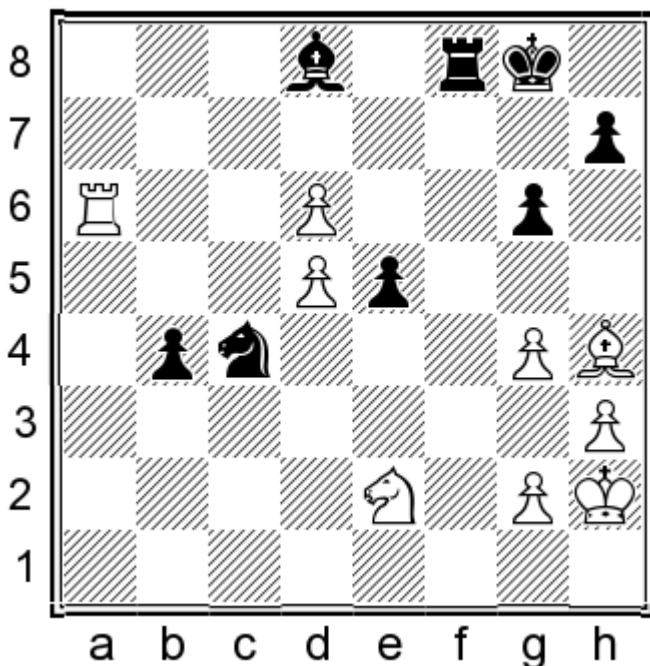
26...Qb7 27.Qd5+?

27.Rxb6 Qxb6 (27...Nxb6?! 28.Qxb5 Rb8 29.Qxe5 + -) 28.Qd5+ Rf7 29.Bxe5 Qb7 30.Qc5 Nxe5 31.Qxe5 b4 32.Nd4²; 27.Ra1! Qc6 28.Rd1 Ne3 29.Rb1 Nf1+ 30.Kh1 Nxc3+ 31.Nxc3 ±

27...Qxd5 28.exd5 b4

28...Rd8 29.Bxe5 b4 30.Nd4 Bxd4 31.Bxd4 b3 32.Ra4 b2 33.Rb4 Rxd6 34.Bxb2 Nxb2 35.Rxb2 Rxd5 =

29.Bh4 Bd8?



29...b3 30.d7 b2 31.Nc3 Bd4 32.Rf6 (32.Nb1 Ne3! 33.d8=Q Nf1+ 34.Kh1 Ng3+ 35.Kh2 Nf1+=) 32...Rd8TM 33.Rxg6+ hxg6 34.Bxd8 Nb6! 35.Bxb6 Bxb6 36.Kg3 Kf8 37.Kf3 Ke7 38.h4 Kxd7 39.Ke4 Bd4 40.Nb1 Ke7 41.h5 gxh5 42.gxh5 Kf6 43.d6 Bc5 44.d7 Be7 =

30.Be7! Bxe7 31.dxe7 Rb8 32.Rc6 + -

32.Rf6 b3 33.d6 + -

32...Kf7 33.Rxc4 Kxe7 34.Rc6 b3 35.Nc3 b2 36.Nb1 Rb3 37.g5 Kd7 38.Re6 Kc7

38...Re3 39.Rb6 Re2 40.Nc3 Rc2 41.Na4

39.h4 Kd7 40.h5 gxh5 41.Rh6 e4 42.Rxh7+ Kd6 43.g6 Rb8 44.Rxh5 e3 45.Kg1 Rg8 46.Rh3 Re8 47.Kf1 Kxd5 48.g7 e2+ 49.Ke1 Rg8 50.Rg3 Ke5 51.Kxe2 Kf4 52.Kf2 1-0

161. * D90

Costachi, Mihnea (2471) - Svidler, Peter (2714)

chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/161, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.h4!? dxc4 6.e4 c5 7.d5 b5 8.h5 O-O

8...Nxh5 9.Nxb5 O-O 10.Bxc4 Bg4 (10...Nd7 11.Kf1!? (11.Nc3 Rb8 12.Be2 e6!? (12...Qa5 13.O-O Ba6∞) 13.dxe6 fxe6,, ... Nf4) 11...Ba6 (11...Qb6

12.Rb1 Ndf6 13.Qd3 Ng4 14.Bg5 Bd7 15.Rh4!?) 12.Kg1 Bxb5 13.Bxb5 Rb8
 14.a4 Qc7 15.Ra2 Ne5 16.b3²) 11.Qc2 (11.Rh4!? Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Nd7 13.Qh3
 Bf6 14.Rxh5 gxh5 15.Qxh5 Ne5 16.Be2 a6 17.Na3 e6 18.Bh6 Qb6 19.Rd1
 Qxb2 20.Bxf8 Rxf8 21.Qh3 exd5 22.exd5 Qxa2 ∞) 11...a6 (11...Na6 12.Kf1
 Nc7 13.Nc3 e6 14.Bg5 Qd7 15.Rd1 exd5 16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.Rxd5 Qb7 18.b3
 (18.Rxc5 Rac8 19.Rxc8 Rxc8,,) 18...Rac8 19.Rd6²) 12.Nc3 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Qd6
 14.Ne2 Nd7 15.f4 Nb6 16.e5 Qd7 17.Be3 Nxc4 18.Qxc4 Rab8 19.b3 Rb4
 20.Qxc5 Rb5 21.Qc6 Qxd5 22.Rc1 f6 23.Nd4 Qxc6 24.Nxc6 Δ fxe5 25.fxe5
 Rf7 26.e6 Rf6 27.Nxe7+ Kf8 28.Rc7 Rxe6 29.Nc6 Rf5 30.Rh3!)?²

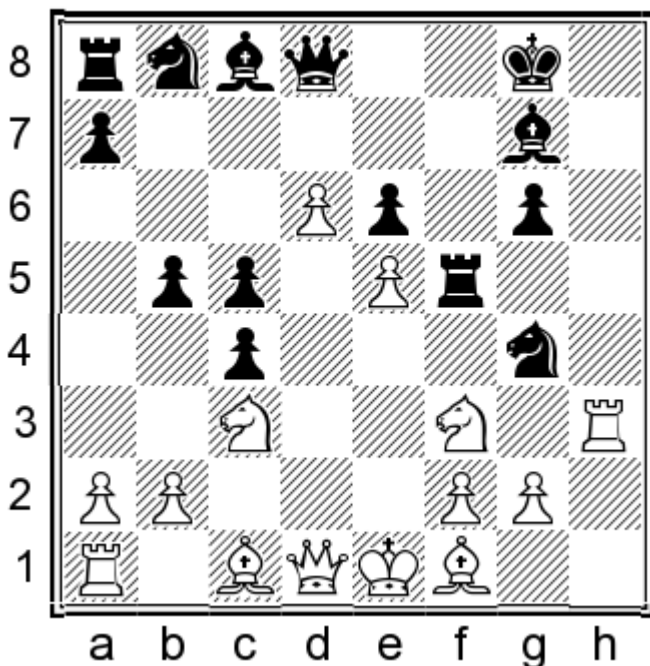
9.hxg6 fxg6 10.e5

10.Rh4!? a6 (10...Nbd7!? 11.Nxb5 Ne8 12.Nc3 (12.Bh6 Rxf3!? 13.Bxg7 e5
 14.dxe6 Re3+! 15.Kd2 Rd3+ 16.Bxd3 Qxh4 17.exd7 Bxd7 18.Bxc4+ Kxg7
 19.Qf3 Nf6 20.Nc3 Rf8,,) 12...Ne5 (12...Nd6 13.Bh6f) 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.Bh6
 Rf7 15.Qd2 Rb8 ... Nd6,,) 11.Bg5 Bg4!? (11...Qe8 12.e5 Nfd7 13.e6 Nb6
 14.Bh6f) 12.e5 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Nbd7! 14.exf6 exf6 15.Bd2 f5 16.Rh3 Re8+
 17.Be2 Nb6 18.Kf1 Qe7 19.Be3 Rad8©

10...Ng4 11.d6 e6 12.Rxh7

12.a4 Nc6 13.axb5 Ncxe5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 (14...Nxf2!? 15.Nc6 Nxd1 16.Nxd8
 Nxc3 17.Nc6 Nxb5 18.Ne7+ Kf7 19.Rxh7 Nxd6 20.Bf4 Kxe7 21.Rxg7+ Kf6
 22.Rc7 e5 23.Be3 Be6 24.Ra6 Nf5 ∞) 15.f4 Nf7 16.Be3 Bb7 ∞

12...Rf5! 13.Rh3



13...Nd7?!N

13...Nc6 14.Nxb5 (14.a4 Ngxe5 15.axb5 Nd4 16.Nxe5 (16.Be3 Nexf3+ 17.gxf3 Qxd6 18.Bxc4 Bb7∞) 16...Rxe5+ 17.Be2 Bb7 18.Kf1 (18.Bf4?! Rf5 19.Be3 Bxg2 20.Rg3 Bb7 21.Rxg6 Nf3+ 22.Bxf3 Bxf3f) 18...Nxe2 19.Nxe2 Rd5 20.Qc2 Rxd6∞) 14...Ngxe5 (14...Rb8!? 15.Na3 Ncxe5 16.Nxc4 Bb7 17.Nfxe5 Nxf2 18.Qe2 Bxe5 19.Nxe5 Nxe3 20.Nxg6 Qxd6 21.Qg4 Kf7 22.Qxh3 Rxf1+ 23.Kxf1 Qd1+ 24.Kf2 Qc2+ 25.Ke1 Qxg6 26.Be3 Bxg2 27.Qh2 Rxb2 28.Qc7+=) 15.Nxe5 Rxe5+ 16.Be3 Nd4 17.Bxc4 (17.Nxd4 Qa5+ 18.Qd2 Qxd2+ 19.Kxd2 cxd4 20.Bh6 Rc5∞) 17...Nxb5 18.Qc2 (18.Qd3 - 136/(151)) 18...Nxd6!? 19.O-O-O Rd5 20.Rxd5 exd5 21.Bxd5+ Nf7 22.Bxf7+ Kxf7 23.Rh7 g5 24.Qb3+ Kg6 25.Qc2+ Bf5 26.Rxg7+ Kxg7 27.Qxf5 Qf6 28.Qxc5 Kh6=

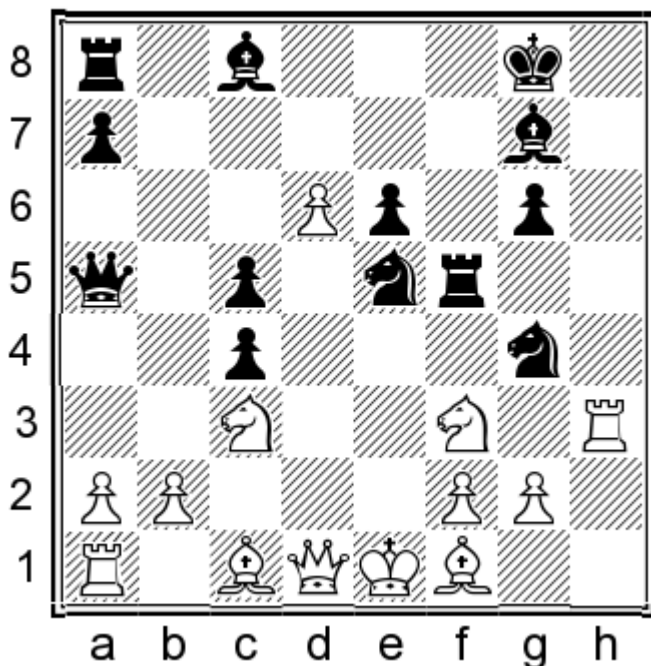
14.Nxb5?! - 148/161

14.Nd5!N - 148/(161) 14...Bf8 (14...exd5 15.Qxd5+ Kf8 16.Qxa8 Ndxe5 17.Bg5 Qe8 18.Be7+ Kf7 19.O-O-O Nc6 20.Re1 +- Stoica,Valentin) 15.Nc7 (15.Bg5 Qa5+ 16.Bd2 Qd8 17.Nc7 Bb7 (17...Ndxe5 18.Nxa8 Bxd6 19.Bc3±) 18.Nxa8 Qxa8 19.Qe2 Ndxe5 20.Nxe5 Rxe5 21.Be3 Nf6 (21...Nxe3 22.Rxe3 Rxe3 23.Qxe3 Bd5 24.Qg3 Kg7 25.a4+-) 22.O-O-O Bg7 23.b3!± Stoica,Valentin) 15...Bb7 16.a4 Ndxe5 17.Nxa8 Qxa8 18.Nxe5 Rxe5+? (18...Nxf2 19.Qe2 Bxg2 20.Bxg2 Qxg2 21.d7 Qg1+ 22.Kd2 Nxe3 23.d8=Q Rf2 24.Qe8 Rxe2+ 25.Kxe2 Qg2+ 26.Ke1 Qf2+=) 19.Be3 +- Brazdzionis,A

14...Qa5+

14...Ndxe5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.f4 (16.g4 Rf8! 17.f4 Qf6 18.Qc2 Rb8 19.a4 Nd3+ 20.Bxd3 cxd3 21.Qxd3 Bd7 22.Bd2 e5 23.f5 gxf5 24.g5 Qf7 25.Bc3 c4 26.Qf3 Qg6,,) 16...Rb8 17.Nc3 Nd3+ 18.Bxd3 cxd3 19.Qxd3 Rb6 20.g4 Rxd6 21.Qc2 Rf7 22.Qxg6 e5 23.Qh7+ Kf8 24.f5 Qb6 25.Qh4 e4 26.Qf2 e3! 27.Bxe3 Re7,,

15.Nc3 Ndx5?!



15...Rb8 16.Bxc4 Ndx5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Be2 Ba6 19.f4 Nc6!? (19...Nf7 20.Bg4 Qb4 21.Bxf5 exf5 22.Qb3²) 20.Bg4 Rf7 21.Bxe6 Re8 22.Re3 Rxe6 23.Rxe6 Bxc3+ 24.bxc3 Qxc3+ 25.Kf2 (25.Bd2?? Qg3#) 25...Qxa1 26.Rxg6+ Kf8 27.Qg4 Qd4+ 28.Be3 Qb2+ 29.Kg3 Rg7! =

16.Qa4??

16.Nxe5! Nxe5 (16...Rxe5+ 17.Be2 Bd7 18.Qc2 Kf7 19.Kf1 + -) 17.g4! Rf6 (17...Rf7 18.f4 Nd7 19.Qc2 Nf8 20.Bd2 ±) 18.f4 Nd3+ 19.Bxd3 cxd3 20.Qxd3 Ba6 21.Qf3! (21.Qe4 Rd8 22.Bd2 Rxd6 23.O-O-O Qd8 ∞) 21...Rd8 22.Bd2! ΔRxd6 23.Nd5 Qa4 24.Nxf6+ Bxf6 25.Bc3 + -

16...Nxf3+ 17.Kd1

17.gxf3 Bxc3+ 18.bxc3 Re5+ 19.Be2 Qxa4 20.fxg4 Qc2- +

17...Qxa4+ 18.Nxa4 Nxf2+ 19.Kc2 Nd4+ 20.Kb1 Nxb3- + 21.Bxc4 Nf2
22.d7 Bxd7 0-1

162. D94

Yuffa, Daniil (2587) - Popov, Ivan (2630)

Russia 148/162, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be2 O-O 7.O-O dxc4
8.Bxc4 Bg4 9.a4!?

9.h3 - 109/(306)

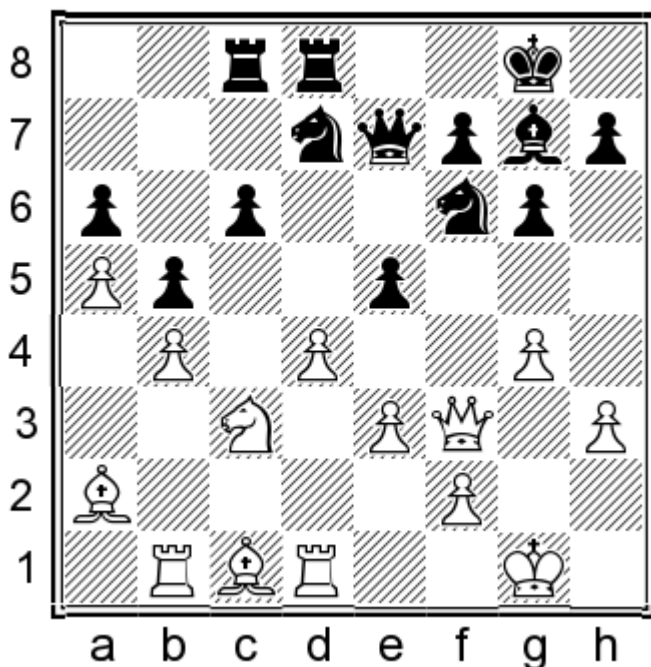
9...Nbd7 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 e5 12.a5 b5 13.Ba2N

13.axb6 Nxb6 14.Ba6 exd4 15.exd4 Qd7 ∞ (15...Qxd4 16.Qxc6²)

13...Rc8

13...b4!? 14.Ne4 exd4 15.exd4 Nxe4 16.Qxe4 Rc8 17.Be3 Nf6 18.Qd3 Nd5
19.Bxd5 Qxd5 20.Qa6 Rc7 ∞ (20...Bxd4 21.Rfd1 c5 22.Qxa7 Ra8 23.Qc7
Rfc8 24.Qg3 Rc6 25.Bxd4 cxd4 26.Qf4 Rd6 =)

14.b4 Qe7 15.Rb1 a6 16.Rd1 Rfd8 17.g4!?



17...exd4?!

17...Nf8 18.g5 (18.dxe5 N6d7! 19.Bb2 Nxe5 20.Qe4 Qh4,, 21.Ne2 Qxh3

22.Bxe5 Bxe5 23.Qxe5 Qxg4+ 24.Kf1 Qh3+ 25.Kg1 Qg4+=) 18...Ne8
 19.Ne4 exd4 20.exd4 (20.Bb2!? dxe3 21.Bxg7 exf2+ 22.Qxf2 Nxg7 23.Qxf7+
 Qxf7 24.Nf6+ Kh8 25.Bxf7 Nge6 26.h4©) 20...Nc7 ∞

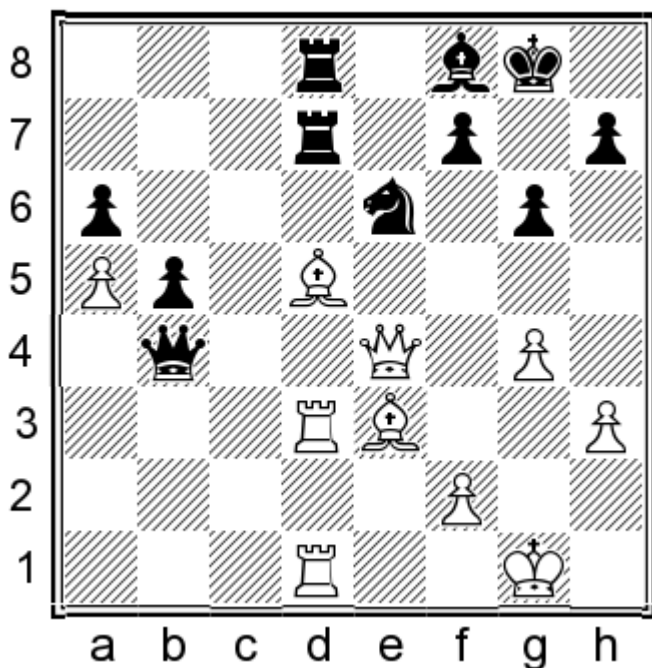
18.exd4 Nf8 19.Be3

19.d5 cxd5 20.Nxd5 Nxd5 21.Bxd5 Ne6 22.Be3² - 19.Be3

19...Ne6 20.d5 cxd5 21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.Bxd5 Rd7 23.Qe4 Bf8!

23...Rcd8 24.Bb6 Re8 25.Bxe6 Qxe6 26.Qxe6 Rxd1+ 27.Rxd1 fxe6 28.Rd7 ±

24.Rb3 Rcd8 25.Rbd3 Qxb4



26.Qxe6!?

26.Qf3 Qe7 27.Bb6 Re8 28.Bxe6 Rxd3 29.Bxf7+ Qxf7 30.Qxd3 ∞

26...fxe6 27.Bxe6+ Kh8

¹27...Kg7 28.Rxd7+ Rxd7 29.Rxd7+ Kf6 30.Bg8 Bd6 31.Rxh7 Ke5 ∞

28.Bxd7 Bg7 29.Bxb5! Rxd3 30.Rxd3 Qxa5 31.Bxa6 Qa1+ 32.Kg2 Qxa6?

32...h5 =

33.Rd8+ Bf8 34.Bh6 Qb7+ 35.Kg1 1-0

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d5 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 O-O 7.e4 a6 8.e5
b5 9.Qb3 Nfd7 10.e6 fxe6 11.Ng5

11.Be3 - 109/(307)

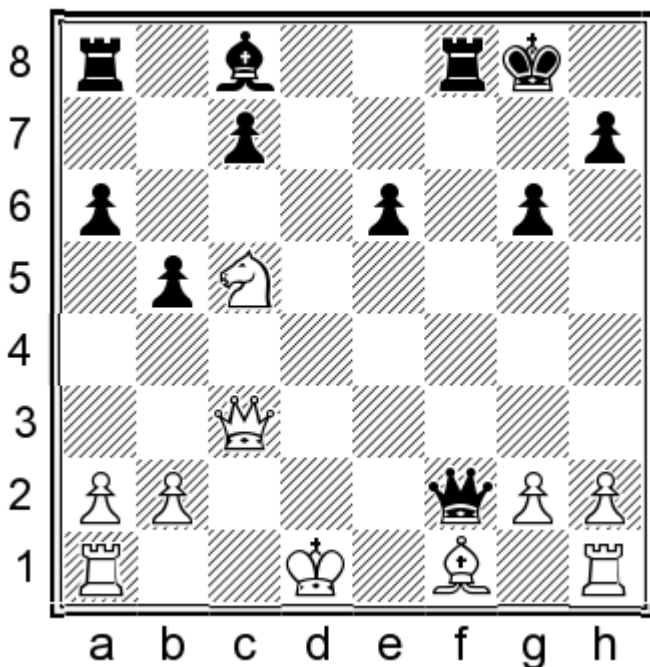
11...Bxd4

11...Nf6 12.Nxe6 Bxe6 13.Qxe6+ Kh8 14.g3!? (14.Be2 Qd6 15.Qxd6 cxd6
16.Bf3 Ra7 17.Be3²) 14...Qxd4 15.Bg2 Ng4 (15...c6 16.O-O²) 16.O-O! Rxf2
17.Rxf2 Qxf2+ 18.Kh1 Nc6 19.Nd1! Nd4 20.Nxf2 Nxf2+ 21.Kg1 Nxe6
22.Bxa8²; 11...Nb6 12.Nxe6 Bxe6 13.Qxe6+ Kh8 14.Be3 Qd6 (14...Rf6
15.Qh3²) 15.Qxd6 exd6 16.h4 Nc6 17.O-O-O h6!? (17...b4 18.Ne2! Nd5
19.h5²; 17...h5 18.Bd3²) 18.Bd3 Ne7,,

**12.Nxe6 Bxf2+ 13.Ke2 Nc5 14.Nxc5+ e6 15.N3e4 Bxc5 16.Nxc5 Nc6
17.Be3 Nd4+ 18.Bxd4 Qxd4 19.Qc3! Qf2+**

19...Qg4+ 20.Ke1 + -

20.Kd1



20...e5! 21.Bd3N

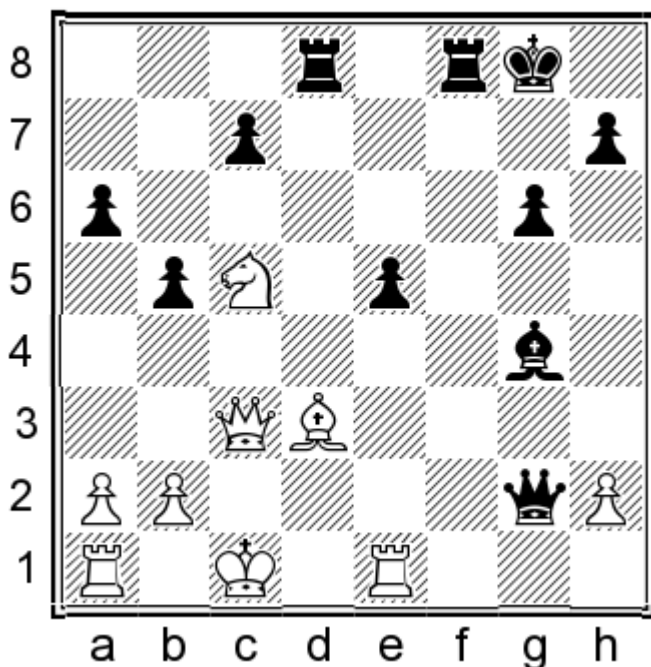
21.Nd3 - 148/ (163) 21...Bg4+ 22.Kc1 Qe3+ 23.Kc2 (23.Qd2 Qb6 24.h3 Be6
25.a4 Rad8- +) 23...Rf2+ 24.Nxf2 Qxf2+= 25.Qd2 (25.Kc1 Rd8 26.Bd3

Qe3+ 27.Qd2 Qc5+ 28.Qc2 Qe3+=) 25...Qc5+ 1/2 (25) Szczepankiewicz,D-Szymanski,R corr 148/(163) 2021 (25...Qc5+ 26.Qc3 Qf2+=)

21...Bg4+

21...Bf5 22.Rf1 Qxg2 23.Rxf5! gxf5 24.Qxe5 Rad8 25.Qg3+ Qxg3 26.hxg3 f4 27.gxf4 Rf5 28.Rc1 Rxc5 29.Rxc5 Rxd3+ 30.Ke2 Rh3 31.Rxc7 Rh2+ 32.Ke3 Rxb2 33.Rc8+ Kg7 34.Rc7+=

22.Kc1 Rad8 23.Re1 Qxg2?



23...Rd4 24.a4 (24.Qd2 Qf6 25.Nb3 Rdd8∞) 24...Rfd8 25.axb5 Rxd3 26.Nxd3 Rxd3! 27.Qxe5 Qd2+ 28.Kb1 Bf5 29.Qe8+ Kg7 30.Qe7+ Kg8=

24.a4! Bf5?

24...Rd4 25.axb5 axb5 26.Qc2 Qd5 27.Ra3²

25.Bxf5! Rxf5

25...Qg5+ 26.Kb1 Qxf5+ 27.Ka2 Qf7+ 28.Qb3 Qxb3+ 29.Kxb3+-

26.Kb1 Rd4 27.axb5 axb5 28.Ne6+- Rc4 29.Qd3 Rf2 30.Qd8+ Kf7 31.Qd7+ Kf6 32.Qg7+!

32.Qg7+ Kf5 (32...Kxe6 33.Rxe5+ Kd6 34.Ra6+ Rc6 35.Qe7#) 33.Rxe5+ Kg4 34.Rg5+

1-0

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 O-O 7.e4 Nfd7
8.Be3 Nc6 9.Rd1 Nb6 10.Qb3 Bg4 11.d5 Ne5 12.Be2 Nxf3+ 13.gxf3 Bh5
14.Kf1

14.O-O - 125/162

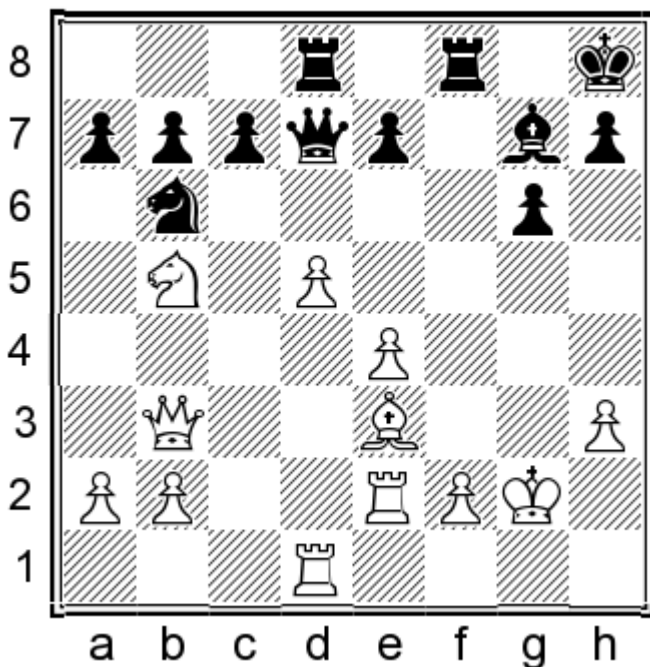
14...Kh8

14...Qd7 15.h4 f5 16.f4 Bxe2+ 17.Kxe2 Bxc3 18.d6+ Rf7 19.e5

15.Kg2N

15.f4

15...f5 16.Rhe1 Qd7 17.h3 Rad8 18.Nb5 fxe4 19.fxe4 Bxe2 20.Rxe2



20...Rf3! = 21.Rh1 Rxh3! 22.Rxh3 Qg4+ 23.Rg3

23.Kh2? Be5+ 24.f4 Qxe2+ 25.Kg3 Nc4- +

23...Qxe2 24.Nxc7

24.Nd4 Qc4 25.Qxc4 Nxc4 26.Ne6 Rc8 27.Bxa7 (27.Bg5 Bf6 =) 27...b6
28.Nxg7 Kxg7 29.Rc3 Nd6 30.Rc6 Kf6! (30...Kf7? 31.e5 Nf5 32.Bxb6 +-)

31.f4 Kf7 32.e5 Nf5 33.Bxb6 Rb8 34.Bc5 Rxb2+ 35.Kf3 Rb7 ∞

24...Be5?

24...Nc4 25.Ne6 Rc8 26.Nxg7 (26.Bxa7 Qxe4+ 27.Qf3 Qxf3+ 28.Rxf3 Bxb2 29.Rb3 Kg8 30.Rxb7 Ba3 31.Bd4 h6 32.f4 Ra8 =) 26...Nxe3+ 27.Qxe3 Qxe3 28.Rxe3 Kxg7 29.Rb3 b6 30.Ra3 Rc7 31.Kg3 g5 =

25.Ne6 Rc8 26.Qb4?

26.Rf3! Nc4 (26...Qxb2 27.Qxb2 Bxb2 28.Bg5 Re8 29.Bxe7 + -) 27.Bf4! Bxf4 (27...Bf6 28.Qxb7 Rg8 29.Ng5 + -) 28.Rxf4 Ne5 29.Qb4 + -

26...Nc4

26...Nc4 27.Qxe7 Nxe3+ 28.Rxe3 Qg4+ 29.Rg3! Qxe4+ 30.Rf3 Qg4+ (30...Qxd5 31.Ng5 Bg7 32.Ne6 Be5 =) 31.Rg3 Qe4+ =

1/2-1/2

E00-E24

165. E01

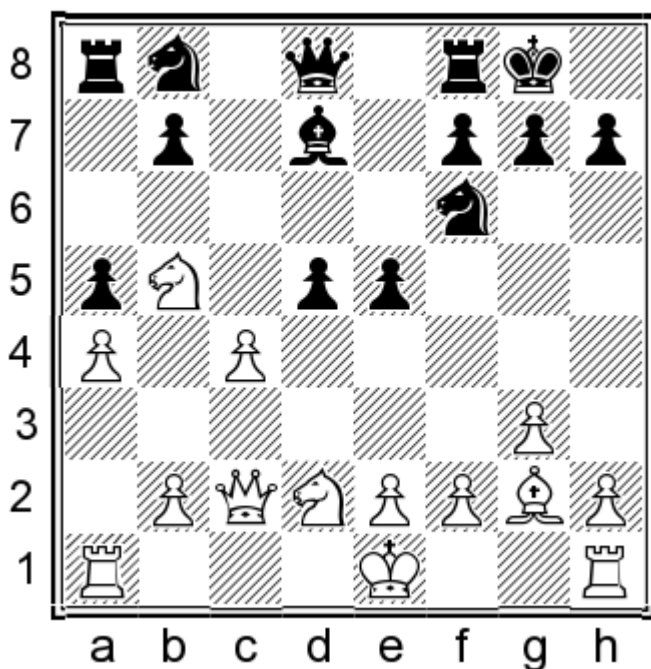
Pashikian, Arman (2606) - Ter Sahakyan, Samvel (2640)

Armenia (ch) 148/165, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 a5 6.Qc2 O-O 7.Bg2 c5 8.a3N

8.cxd5 - 147/(165)

8...Bxd2+ 9.Nbxd2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 e5 11.Nb5 Bd7 12.a4



12.O-O Bxb5 13.cxb5 Nbd7 14.Rac1 Rc8 15.Qd3 Qe7 =

12...Bc6?!

12...d4! 13.Bxb7 Nc6 14.Bxa8 (14.O-O Rb8 15.Bxc6 Bxc6 16.Nb3 h5³)
14...Qxa8 15.O-O Nb4 16.Qb3 Bh3 17.Qf3 e4 18.Nxe4 Nxe4 19.Rfd1 f5
20.Nxd4 Rf6©

13.cxd5 Nxd5

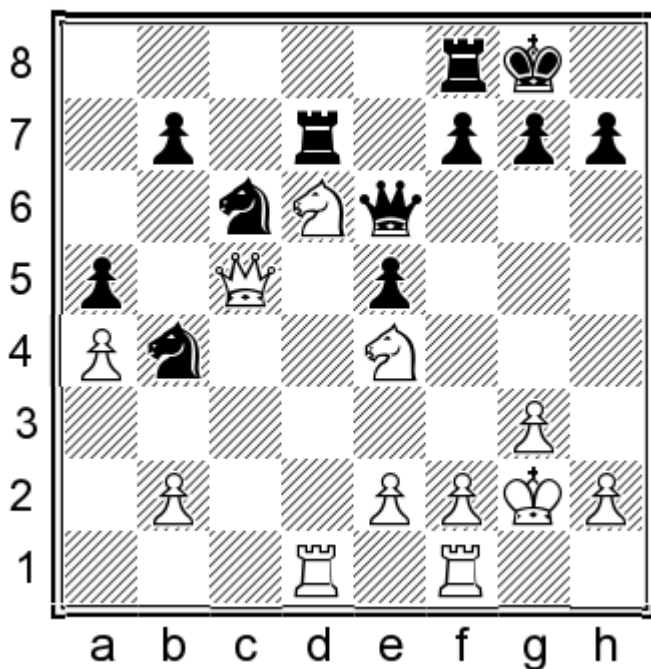
13...Bxd5 14.O-O Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qe7 17.Nc4²

14.O-O Nb4 15.Qc3 Bxg2 16.Kxg2 N8c6 17.Rad1 Qe7 18.Ne4² Rad8

19.Qc5 Qe6 20.Nbd6

20.Rd6 Qb3 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Nbd6 Qxb2 23.Qc4 Qa2 24.Qxa2 Nxa2
25.Rb1 Nab4 26.Nxb7 Rd4 27.Nec5²

20...Rd7



21.Qc4! Qxc4

21...Rfd8 22.Qxe6 fxe6 23.Rd2²

22.Nxc4 Rfd8

22...Rc7 23.Nc3 f5 24.Rd2 e4 25.Rfd1 ±

23.Rxd7 Rxd7 24.Nc5 Rc7 25.Rd1 ± f6 26.Rd7 Rxd7 27.Nxd7 Na6
28.Nd6 Nc7?!

28...Nd4 29.Nxb7 Nb3 30.Nb6 Kf7 31.Nc4 Nbc5 32.Nbxa5 Nxa4 33.Kf1 ±

29.Nxb7 Kf7 30.Ndc5 Nd5 31.Nd6+ + - Ke7 32.Nc4 1-0

166. E02

Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2774) - Alekseenko, Kirill (2698)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/166, 2021

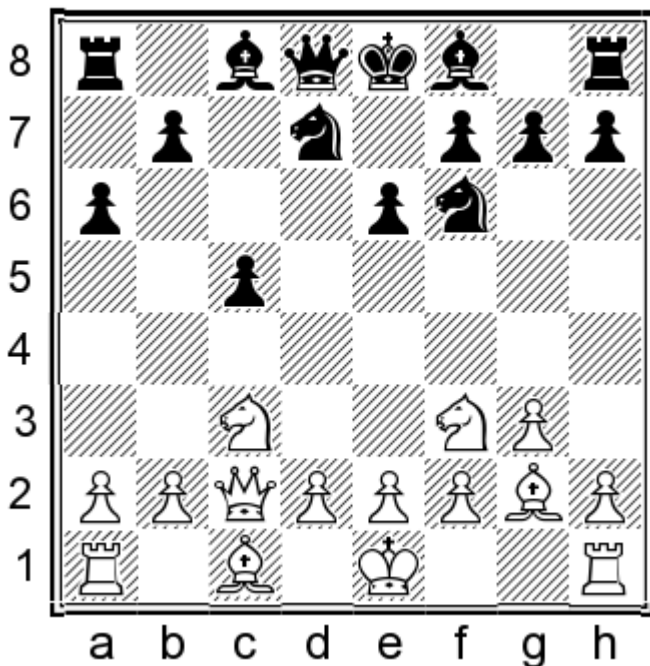
1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 e6 3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.Qa4+ Nbd7

5...c6 6.Qxc4 b5 7.Qc2 Bb7 - 121/6, A

6.Qxc4 a6

6...c5 - 117/3, A

7.Qc2 c5 8.Nc3



8...Be7?

8...Qc7 - 147/5, A

9.O-O O-O 10.d4± cxd4

10...b5!? 11.Ng5 Ra7 12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.Bf4 h6 14.Nge4f

11.Nxd4 Qc7 12.Rd1

12.Bf4 e5 13..Nf5 ±

12...Rd8N

12...Nb6 13.Be3 Ng4 (13...Nc4 14.Ne4 +-) 14.Bd2 Rd8 15.Be1 Bd7 16.Qe4 e5 17.Nf5 Bxf5 18.Qxf5 Nf6 19.Ne4 +-

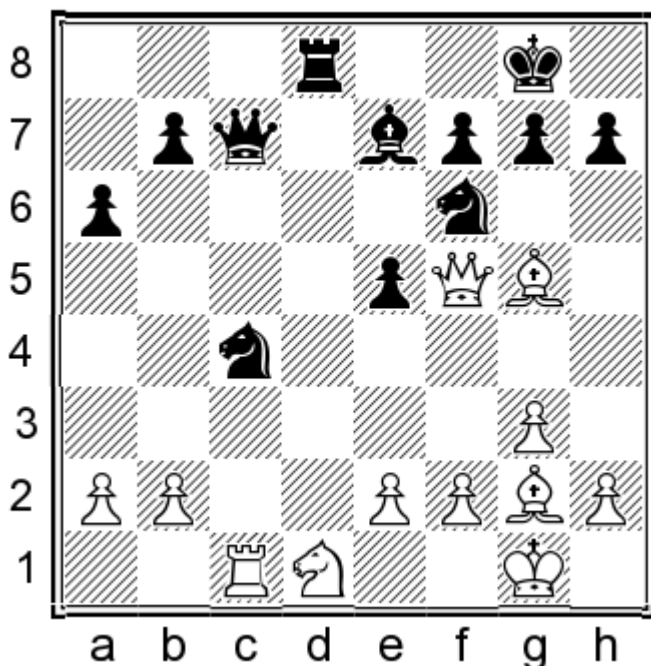
13.Be3 Nb6 14.Rac1 e5

14...Ng4 15.Qb3! Nxe3 16.fxe3 Qc5 17.Na4 Nxa4 18.Rxc5 Nxc5 19.Qb6 +-

15.Nf5 Bxf5

15...Bf8 16.Nxg7! Kxg7 (16...Bxg7 17.Ne4 +-) 17.Qb3 Nc4 18.Rxd8 Nxe3 19.Rxf8 Kxf8 20.fxe3 Qc5 21.Rf1 +-

16.Qxf5 Nc4 17.Bg5 Rxd1+ 18.Nxd1 Rd8



18...Qd8 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Bxb7 Nd6 21.Qf3 Rb8 22.Bd5 +-

19.Bxf6! Bxf6 20.Be4 Qa5 21.Nc3 Kf8 22.Nd5 b5 23.Qxh7 Rxd5 24.Bxd5 Qd2 25.Rxc4 bxc4 26.e4

26.Qh8+ Ke7 27.Qa8 Qxb2 28.Qxa6 c3 29.Qc8 +-

26...Qxb2 27.Qh8+ Ke7 28.Qc8 Qb6 29.Qxc4 Qb5

29...Kf8 30.Bxf7 Qb5 31.Kg2 Qxc4 32.Bxc4 a5 33.Kh3 +-

30.Qc7+ Qd7 31.Qc5+ 1-0

167. E04

Nakamura, Hikaru (2736) - Tari, Aryan (2639)

chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/167, 2021

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 c5 6.O-O Nc6 7.dxc5 Qxd1
8.Rxd1 Bxc5 9.Nbd2 c3 10.bxc3 O-O 11.Bb2 Bd7 12.c4 Rfd8 13.Nb3 Be7
14.Nfd4 Rac8 15.Nb5 Be8 16.c5 a5N**

16...Rxd1+ - 132/171

17.Bxc6

17.a4 Nd5 18.Rac1 h6 19.e4 Ndb4 20.Bf1²

17...Rxd1+ 18.Rxd1 Bxc6 19.Na7 Ra8?!

19...Rc7 20.Be5 Rd7 21.Rc1 (21.Bd6 Bxd6 22.cxd6 Bd5 23.f3 Bxb3 24.axb3 Ne8 25.Nb5 f5 =) 21...Bd5 22.Nc8 Bd8 23.Nb6 Bxb3 24.axb3 Rd2 25.Kf1 Ne4 26.Bf4 Rb2 27.f3 Nf6 =

20.Nxc6 bxc6 21.a4

21.Bxf6 Bxf6 22.a4 g5 23.e3²

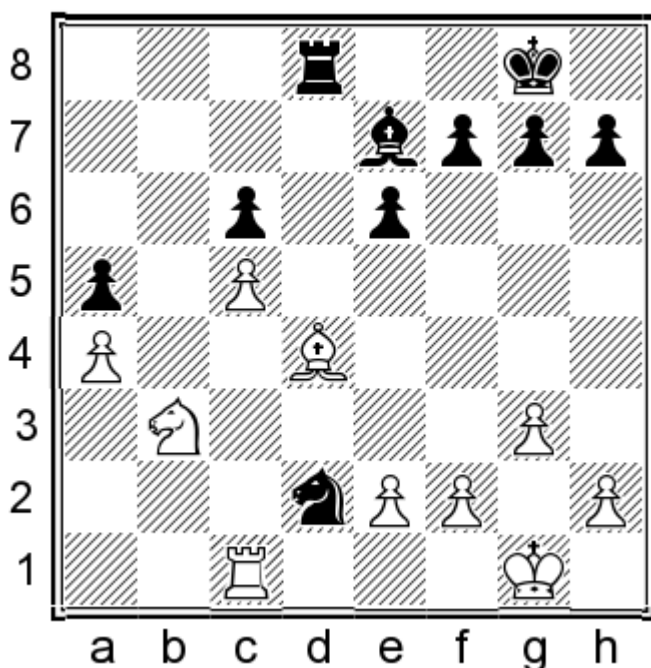
21...Ne4 22.Bd4 Rd8

22...e5 23.Bxe5 Bxc5 24.Nxc5 Nxc5 25.Rc1 Nxa4 26.Rxc6 h5 27.e3 f6 28.Bd4²

23.Rc1

23.Rd3 e5 24.Bxe5 Rxd3 25.exd3 Nxc5 26.Nxa5 Nxa4 27.Nxc6 ±

23...Nd2?



23...Ra8 24.Kg2 Kf8 25.f3 Nf6 26.Rd1 Ke8 27.f4²

24.Nxa5! Rxd4 25.Nxc6 Rd7 26.Nxe7+ Rxe7 27.Rd1 Rd7 28.Kg2 Rd5 29.a5

29.c6 Nc4 30.c7 Nd6 31.Rb1 Kf8 32.Rb6! Rc5 33.Rxd6 Rxc7 34.Kf3 Ra7 35.Rd4 +-

29...Kf8 30.a6! +- Rxc5 31.Rxd2 Ra5 32.Rd6 Ke7 33.Rb6 g5 34.Rb7+ Kf6
35.a7 g4 36.f3 h5

36...gxf3+ 37.Kxf3 h5 38.Ke4

37.f4 Kg6 38.e4 Ra2+ 39.Kf1 h4 40.Ke1 f5 41.e5 h3 42.Kd1 Kh5 43.Kc1
Ra6 44.Kb2 Ra5 45.Kb3 Ra1 46.Kc4 Rc1+ 47.Kb5 1-0

168. E04

Bjerre, Jonas Buhl (2549) - Bellahcene, Bilel (2517)

Bassano del Grappa 148/168, 2021

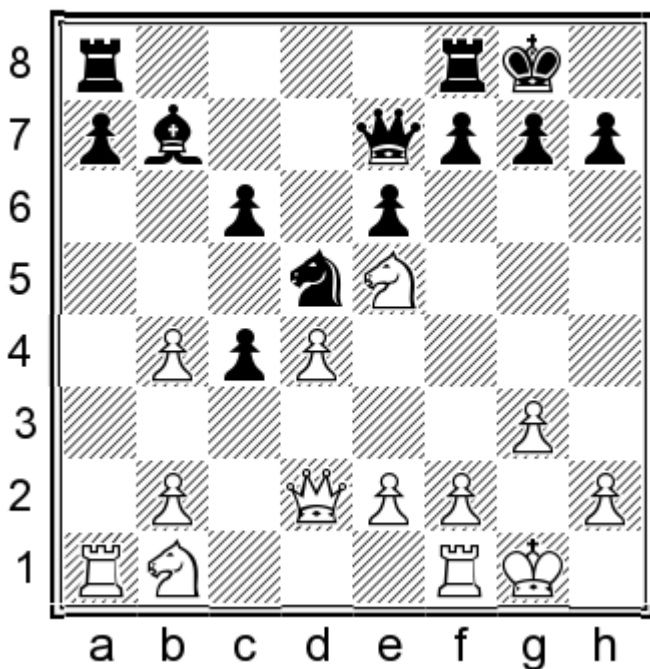
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 c5 7.Bxb4 cxb4
8.Ne5 O-O 9.a3 Nc6 10.Bxc6

10.Nxc6 - 109/(325)

10...bxc6 11.axb4 Bb7 12.O-O Nd5N

12...a5 13.bxa5 Rxa5 14.Rxa5 Qxa5 15.Qd2 Qa7 16.Nxc4±

13.Qd2 Qe7



14.Rc1! f6

14...Nxb4 15.Ra4 Nd5 16.Raxc4±; 14...Qxb4 15.Qxb4 Nxb4 16.Nd7 Rfd8
17.Nc5 Bc8 18.Rxc4 Nd5 19.Nd2 Nb6 20.Rb4±

15.Nxc4 Nxb4 16.Na5

16.Nc3 Ba6 (16...c5 17.dxc5 Qxc5 18.Nd6 Qc6 19.Nce4 Qb6 20.Nxb7 Qxb7
21.Nc5 Qb6 22.Rc4 a5 23.Qd7 ±) 17.Ne4 Bb5 18.Nc5 Nd5 19.e4 Nb6
20.Na3 Rfd8 21.Nxb5 cxb5 22.b3 Rac8 23.Qe3 ±

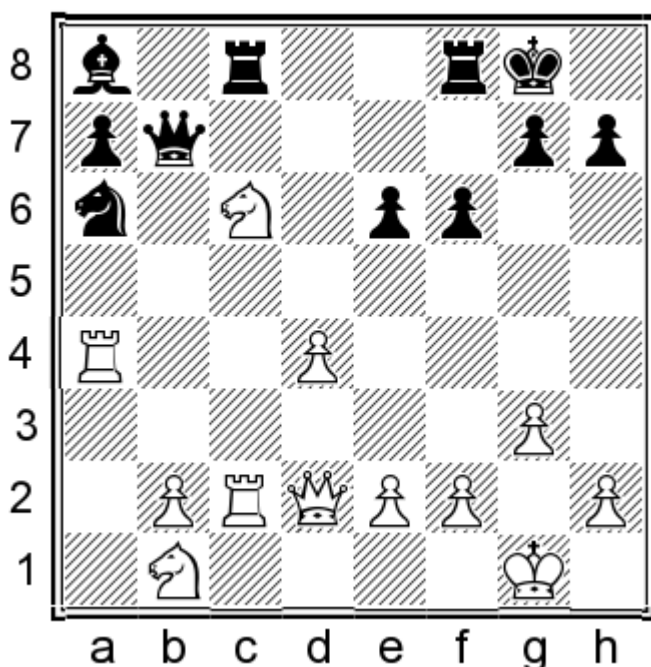
16...Rab8 17.Rc5 ± Ba8 18.Ra4 Na6

18...Nd5 19.Nxc6 Bxc6 20.Rxc6 Qe8 21.Rca6 ±

19.Nxc6 Qb7

19...Bxc6 20.Rxc6 Nb4 21.Rc5 Qb7 22.Nc3 + -

20.Rc2 Rbc8



21.Rxa6! Qxa6 22.Ne7+ Kf7 23.Rxc8 Rxc8 24.Nxc8 Qxc8 25.f3 h5 26.Kf2
Qc7 27.Qc3 Qb6 28.Qc5

28.Nd2 e5 29.Nb3 Bc6 30.e3 ±

28...e5 29.Qxb6 axb6 30.dxe5

30.e4 exd4 31.Ke2 f5 32.Kd3 + -

30...fxe5 31.h4 Ke6 32.Nc3 Kd6 33.b4

33.e4 Kc5 34.Ke3 Kc4 (34...Bc6 35.Na2 Kc4 36.Nc1 + -) 35.Na4 Kb5 36.b3
Bc6 37.f4 + -

33...Bc6 34.Ke3 Ke6 35.Kd3 Kd6 36.Kc4 Bd7 37.e4 Be8 38.Nb1 Kc6 39.Kc3 Kd6 40.Nd2 Ke6 41.f4 Bc6 42.Kd3 1-0

169. E04

Injac, Teodora (2319) - Nikcevic, Nebojsa (2412)

Niksic 148/169, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.O-O Rb8 7.e3 b5 8.b3 cxb3 9.axb3 a6 10.Qe2 Bb7 11.Bd2 Bd6

11...Nb4 - 110/(271)

12.Rc1 Ne7N

12...O-O

13.Ne1 c6?!

13...Bxg2 14.Nxg2 e5 15.dxe5 Bxe5 16.Rxa6 O-O 17.Bc3 (17.Ne1 Ng6 18.Nf3 Qd5 ∞) 17...Ng6 ∞ ; 13...Ne4 14.Nd3 O-O 15.Ba5 f5 ∞

14.Nd3 Nd7

14...O-O 15.b4 Bc7 16.Be1 Nd7 17.Nd2 a5 18.bxa5 Bxa5 19.Nb3 Bxe1 20.Qxe1²

15.Nc3

15.Ba5! Bc7 16.Bb4 O-O 17.Nd2 a5 18.Bxe7 Qxe7 19.Bxc6 Bxc6 20.Rxc6 Nf6 21.Nc5 $\pm$

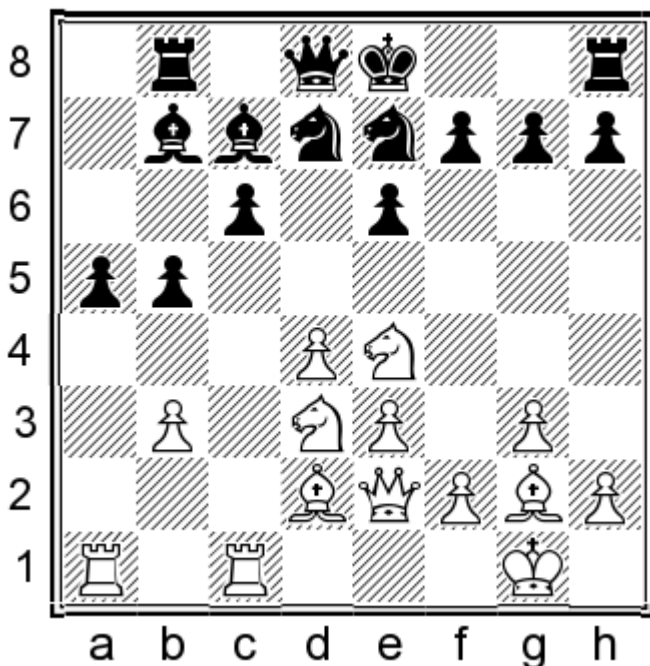
15...Bc7

15...O-O 16.Ne4 Bc7 17.Bb4 a5 18.Bd6 $\pm$

16.Ne4

16.b4 O-O 17.Ne4²

16...a5



17.f4!?

17.Ndc5 Nxc5 18.dxc5 O-O 19.Rd1 Nd5 20.Nd6 f5 21.e4 fxe4 22.Qxe4 Qf6 23.Qe1²; 17.Ne5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 O-O 19.Bc3 Bb6 20.Nd6²

17...O-O 18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.fxe5 Ra8 20.Qh5 Bc8?

20...Nd5 21.Rf1 Qe7 22.Rf2 (22.Nf6+ Nxf6 23.exf6 gxf6 ∞) 22...f5 23.exf6 Nxf6 24.Qc5 $\odot$

21.Rf1 + - Ng6 22.Ng5 h6 23.Nxf7! Rxf7 24.Rxf7 Kxf7 25.Rf1+ Kg8 26.Qxg6 1-0

170. E04

Pashikian, Arman (2606) - Sargsyan, Shant (2596)
Armenia (ch) 148/170, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 dxc4 5.Nf3 a6 6.O-O Nc6 7.e3 Rb8 8.Qe2 b5 9.b3 cxb3 10.axb3 Bb7 11.Bd2 Bd6

11...Nb4 - 110/(271)

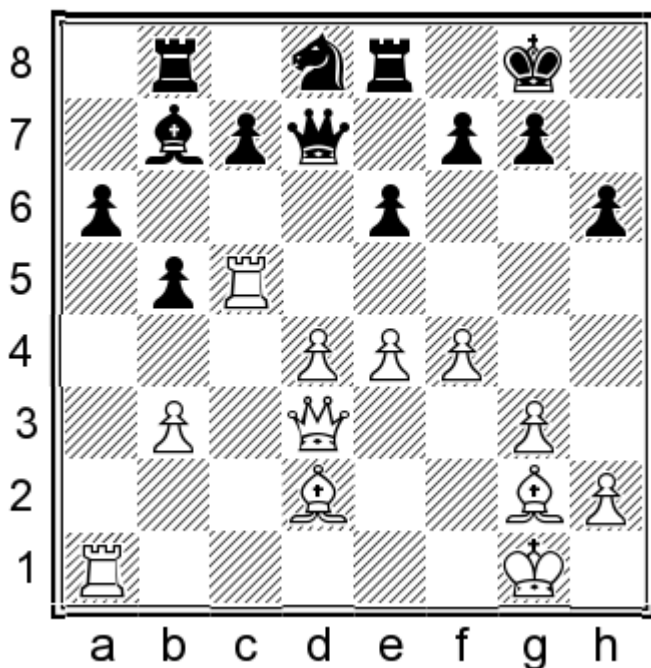
12.Rc1 O-O 13.Ne1 Qd7

13...Qe8!? 14.Bc3 (14.Nd3 e5 15.dxe5 (15.Bxc6 Bxc6 16.Rxc6 Qxc6 17.dxe5 Bxe5 18.Nxe5 Qd5 19.Bc3 Ne4³) 15...Nxe5 16.Bxb7 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 Rxb7 18.Rxa6 Qe4=) 14...Nd5 15.Nd3 f5 ∞

14.Nd3 Rfe8 15.f4 Nd5 16.Nc3 Ndb4N

16...Ncb4 17.Nxb4 Nxb4 18.Bxb7 Rxb7 19.Ne4©

17.Ne4 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 h6 19.Nc5 Bxc5 20.Rxc5 Nd8 21.e4



21...f5! 22.exf5?!

22.Ba5 Nc6 (22...fxe4 23.Bxe4 Bxe4 24.Qxe4 Rc8 25.Rac1 c6 26.Bxd8 Rxd8 27.Rxc6 a5 =) 23.exf5 Qxd4+ 24.Qxd4 Nxd4 25.Rd1 Nxb3 26.Rxc7 Nxa5 27.Rdd7 exf5 28.Rxg7+ =

22...Bxg2 23.Kxg2 exf5 24.Rxf5

24.Bc3 Rb6 25.Qxf5 Re2+ 26.Kg1 Qxf5 27.Rxf5 b4 28.Be1 Nb7³

24...Nc6 25.Bc3 Re6! 26.Rc5?

26.d5 Rbe8μ; 26.Re1 Rxe1 27.Bxe1 Re8 28.Bc3 Re6³

26...Rbe8 27.Ra2 Re3- + 28.Qd1 Ne7

¹28...Nd8 29.Rxa6 Re2+ 30.Kh1 Nb7- +

29.Qh5 c6 30.Rxa6 g6?!

30...Kh7 31.f5 Rf8! 32.g4 b4 33.Ba1 Qd6 34.Ra2 Qf4- +

31.Qxh6 Qg4

31...b4 32.Bxb4 Re2+ (32...Qg4 33.Rg5 Qf3+ 34.Kh3 Qf1+ 35.Kh4 Rxc3!

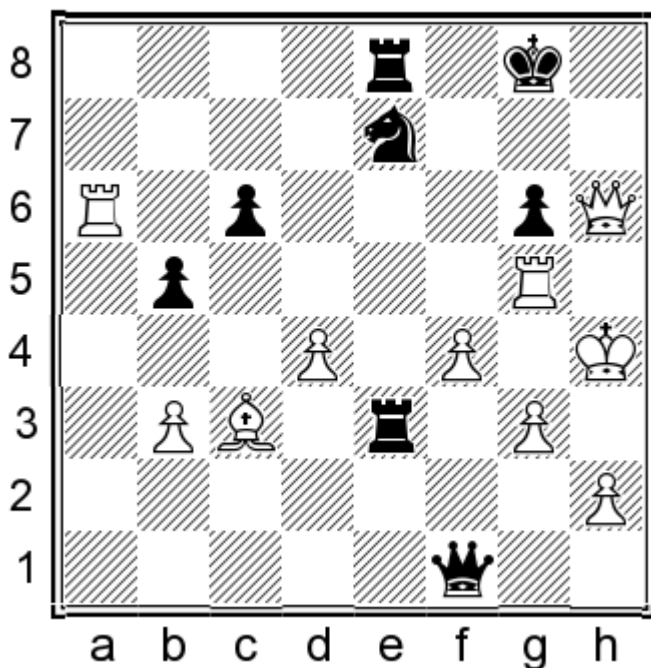
36.hxg3 Qh1+ 37.Kg4 Qxh6 38.Re5 Rf8 39.Bxe7∞) 33.Kf3 Qxd4 34.Kg4 Qd7+ 35.Kg5 Qd8 36.Ra8 Qxa8 37.Bc3 Kf7 38.Ra5 Qb8 39.Qg7+ Ke6 40.Be5 Rxe5+ 41.Rxe5+ Kd7∞

32.Rg5?

32.d5! Qf3+ 33.Kh3 Rxc3 34.Raxc6 Rxc5 35.Rxg6+ Nxg6 36.Qxg6+ Kf8 37.Qf6+ Kg8 38.Qg6+=

32...Re2+?

32...Qf3+! 33.Kh3 (33.Kg1 Qd1+ 34.Kg2 Re2+ 35.Kh3 Qc2! 36.Kg4 Rxh2-+) 33...Qf1+! 34.Kh4



34...Rxg3! 35.Kxg3 (35.hxg3 Qh1+) 35...Nf5+! 36.Rxf5 (36.Kg4 Qg2#) 36...Re3+ 37.Kh4 (37.Kg4 Qg2+ 38.Kh4 Rh3#) 37...Qh3+! 38.Kg5 Qxf5+ 39.Kh4 Rh3#

33.Kg1 Qf3 34.Rxg6+ Nxg6 35.Qxg6+ Kh8 1/2-1/2

171. *** IN E05

Cheparinov, Ivan (2667) - Safarli, Eltaj (2598)

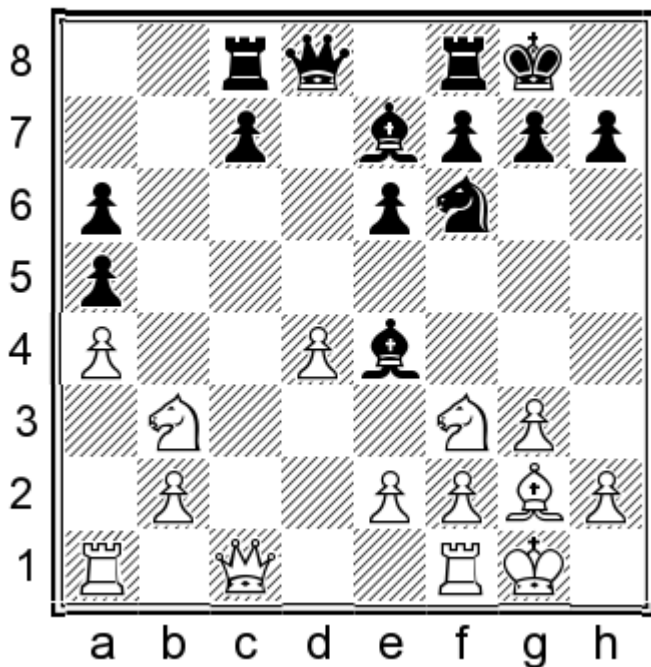
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/171, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 O-O 6.O-O dxc4 7.Qc2 a6 8.a4 Nc6 9.Qxc4 Na5

9...Qd5 - 119/163

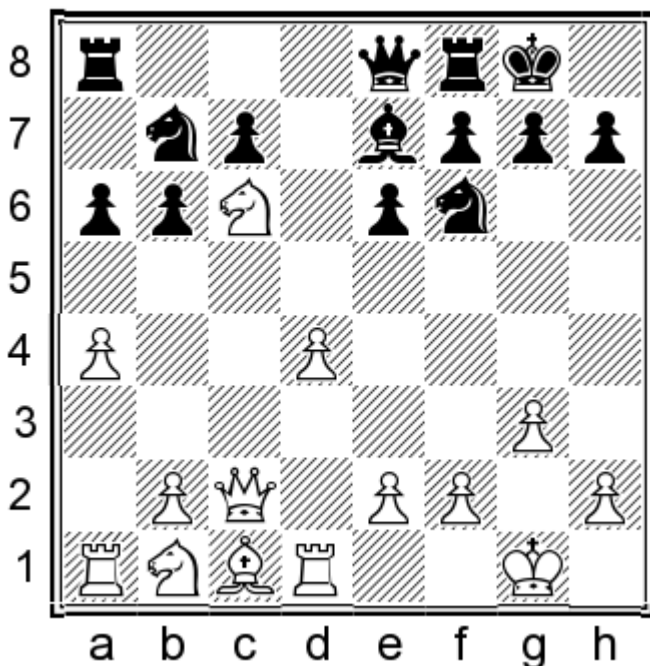
10.Qc2 b6 11.Ne5

11.Bg5 Bb7 12.Nc3 c5 13.Rad1 cxd4 14.Rxd4 Qe8 = ; 11.Nc3 Bb7 12.e4 c5
13.Rd1 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Qc7 = ; 11.Bd2 Bb7 12.b4N (12.Bxa5 - 148/(171)
12...bxa5 13.Nbd2 Rc8 14.Nb3 Be4 15.Qc1



15...c5!N (15...Bb4) 16.dxc5 Qd5 17.Ra3 Bxc5 18.Nxc5 Rxc5 19.Rc3 Rfc8
20.Rxc5 Rxc5 21.Qf4 e5 22.Qe3 Obodchuk,A (2299) -Liyanage,R (2181)
chess.com (ol-rapid) 148/(171) 2020 (22.Qe3 h6 =) 12...Nc6 (12...Be4!
13.Qd1 Nc6³) 13.Qb2 Rb8 14.Rd1² Grunberg,M (2401) -Plenca,J (2483)
chess.com (Int._blitz) 148/(171) 2020

11...Bb7 12.Bxb7 Nxb7 13.Nc6 Qe8 14.Rd1



14.Bg5N Bc5 (14...h6 15.Nxe7+ (15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Rd1 Nd8 17.Nb4 c5 (17...Qe7 18.Qc4 c5 19.dxc5 bxc5 =) 18.dxc5 Nc6 19.Nxc6 Qxc6 20.Nd2 Qxc5 =) 15...Qxe7 16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.Qxc7 (17.Rd1 c5 =) 17...Na5 18.Qc3 (18.Qxb6 Nc4 19.Qb4 Qxd4 20.Na3 Rfc8 21.Nxc4 Rab8 22.Qd2 Rxc4 =) 18...Rac8 19.Qb4 Nc6 20.Qxb6 Nxd4 21.Nc3 Rb8 22.Qxa6 Rxb2©) 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Qe4 Bd6 17.Nd2 Kh8 18.Qf3 f5 19.Rac1 Nd8 20.Rc2 f6 21.Rfc1 ± Erenberg,A (2484)-Zubov,A (2601) Israel 148/(171) 2020

14.Nxe7+ Qxe7 15.Bg5 c5 16.dxc5 Qxc5 =

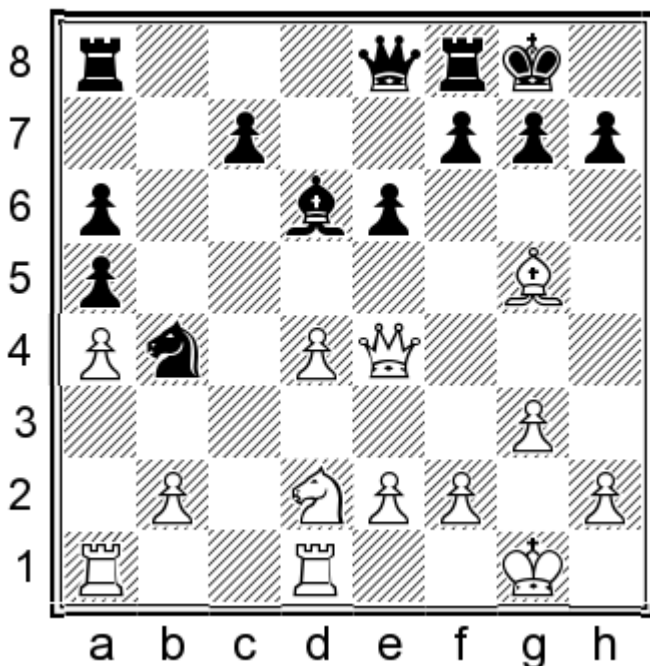
14...Bc5! 15.Ne5 Bd6 16.Bg5N

16.Nc3

16...Nd5 17.Nc4 Nb4 18.Qe4 Na5

18...Qc6 19.Qxc6 Nxc6 20.d5 (20.Nxd6 cxd6 21.d5 Nb4 22.dxe6 fxe6 23.Bd2 Nd5 24.Nc3²) 20...exd5 21.Nxd6 Nxd6 22.Nc3 Nb4 23.Nxd5 Nxd5 24.Rxd5 Rfe8 25.Kf1²; 18...Rb8 19.Nc3 f6 20.Be3 (20.Bf4 Bxf4 21.Qxf4 Rf7 ∞) 20...Qf7 21.Rac1 Rfd8 ∞

19.Nxa5 bxa5 20.Nd2



20.Nc3 f5 21.Qf3 h6 22.Bf4 Rd8 23.Rac1 Qf7 24.Kg2 Rd7 =

20...f5! 21.Qf3 Nc2 22.Rac1 Nxd4 23.Qd3 e5 = 24.Be3 c5 25.Nc4

25.Bxd4 cxd4 26.Qb3+ Qf7 27.Qxf7+ Rxf7 28.Rc6 Bb4 29.Nc4 Re7 30.e3 dxe3 31.Nxe3 ∞

25...Bc7 26.Bxd4 cxd4

26...exd4 27.Nd2 Qxa4 28.Nb3 Qb5 (28...Rf7 29.Rxc5²; 28...Bd6 29.Nxc5 Bxc5 30.Rxc5²) 29.Qxb5 axb5 30.Rxc5 Bb6 31.Rxb5 Rfb8 32.Kf1²

27.e3 Rd8

27...Qxa4 28.exd4 exd4 29.b3 Qb5 30.Qxd4 Qxb3 31.Qd5+ Kh8 32.Ne5 Qxd5 33.Rxd5 Bd8 (33...Bxe5 34.Rxe5 a4 35.Ra5 =) 34.Re1 Bf6 35.Nd7 Rf7 36.Nxf6 Rxf6 37.Rxa5 h6 38.Re7 =

28.Qb3 Qf7 29.exd4 exd4 30.Nd2 Qxb3 31.Nxb3 Bb6 32.Rc6 Rf6 33.Rxf6 gxf6 34.Kg2 1/2-1/2

172. * E05

Giri, Anish (2763) - Wang, Hao (2762)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/172, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 O-O 6.O-O dxc4 7.Qc2 a6 8.a4

Bd7 9.Qxc4 Bc6 10.Bf4 Bd6 11.Nc3

11.Qc1

11...Bxf4 12.gxf4 a5 13.e3 Na6

13...Nbd7 14.Kh1 Ra6! 15.Rg1 Rb6,,

14.Ne5

14.Rfd1 - 35/584

14...Bxg2 15.Kxg2 c6 16.h3N

16.Rg1!?!; 16.Rfd1

16...Qb6 - 148/172

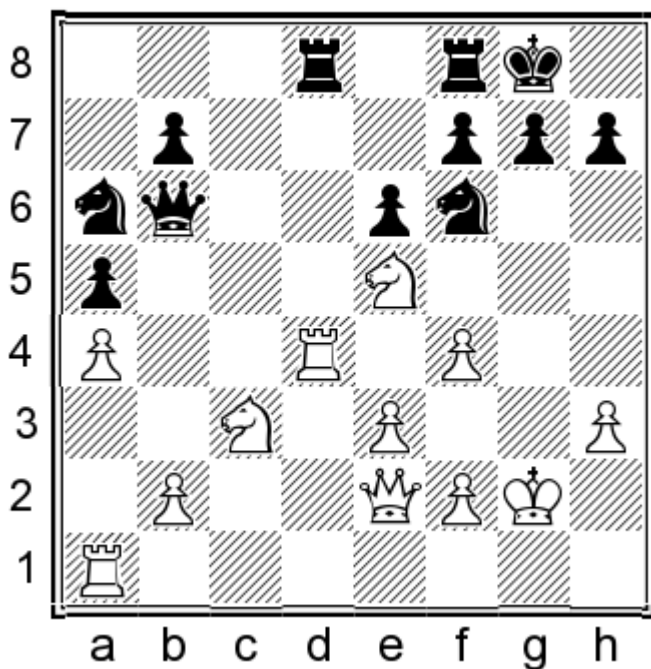
16...Ne8!? ... Nd6, f6

16...Qe7N 17.Rfd1 Rfd8 18.Rac1 Ne8 19.Qe2 Nd6 20.Kh2 Nc7 21.Qf3 Nd5 ∞ Stefansson,V (2327)-Mai,A (2025) Island (ch) 148/(172) 2021

17.Qe2 c5?

17...Rad8

18.Rfd1 cxd4 19.Rxd4 Rad8



20.Rxd8

20.Qb5!± Qxb5 21.axb5 Rxd4 22.exd4 Nc7 23.Rxa5

20...Qxd8

20...Rxd8 21.Qb5! Qc7 22.Rc1 Nc5 23.Nc4 Nd3 24.Rd1 ±

21.Rd1 Qa8 22.Kg1 Nb4 23.Qb5 Nbd5 24.Nxd5 Nxd5 25.Rc1 h6 26.Qd7 Nf6?

26...Nb6 27.Qd6 Qd8! (27...Nxa4?? 28.b3) 28.Qxd8 Rxd8 29.Rc7 f6 =

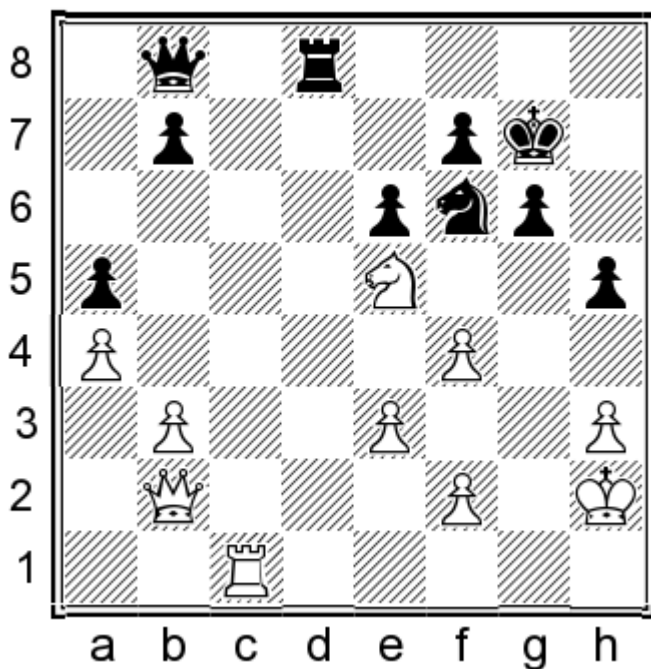
27.Qd6 g6

27...Nd5 28.f5 ± ; 27...Qe8 28.b3 b5 29.Qc6²

28.b3 h5 29.Kh2 Kg7 30.Qd4

30.Qb6 Kg8 (30...Nd5 31.Qd4 Kh7 32.e4 Nxf4 33.Nd7 Ne2 34.Nf6+ Kh8 35.Qe3 Kg7 36.Nxh5+ gxh5 37.Qg5+ Kh7 38.Qxh5+ Kg7 39.Qg4+ Kf6 40.e5+! (40.Qxe2 Qb8+ ±) 40...Kxe5 41.Qxe2+ Kf6 42.Qf3+ + -) 31.Rc5 Ne4 32.Rc7 Qa6 33.Qxa6 bxa6 34.Kg2 + -

30...Rd8 31.Qb2 Qb8



31...Rc8 32.Rc4! Rxc4 33.bxc4 Qc8 34.Qb6 + -

32.b4

32.Qc3! Nd5 (32...Rd5 33.Qc7 + -) 33.Qxa5 + -

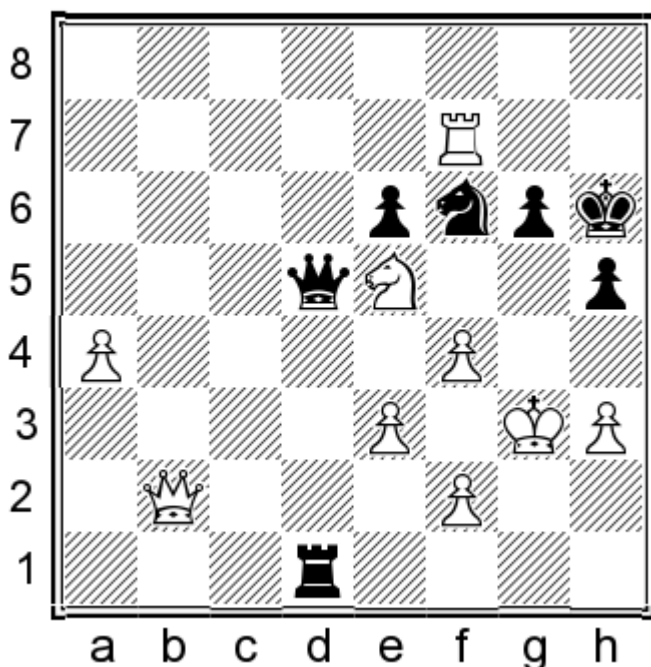
32...axb4 33.Rc4

33.Qxb4 ±

33...b3?

33...Rd1! = 34.Rxb4 (34.Qxb4 Qd8! 35.Qxb7 Ng4+ 36.Nxg4 hxg4 =)

34...Qd8! 35.Rxb7 Qd5 36.Rxf7+ Kh6 37.Kg3!



(37.Rxf6 Rh1+ 38.Kg3 Rxh3+ 39.Kxh3 Qh1+ 40.Kg3 h4+! 41.Kg4 Qg2+ =)

37...Rh1! (... Rh3) (37...Rg1+? 38.Kh4 Rh1 39.Qb7 + -) 38.Qb7 Rg1+!

39.Kh2 (39.Kh4?? Qxe5- +) 39...Rh1+ =

34.Rb4 + - Qa7 35.Rxb3 Qxa4 36.Rxb7 Qe8 37.Ra7 Rd5 38.Qb7 Ne4

39.Nxf7 1-0

173. E05

Sargsyan, Shant (2598) - Holm, Kristian Stuvik (2456)

Beograd 148/173, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 Be7 5.Nf3 O-O 6.O-O dxc4 7.Qc2 a6 8.a4 Bd7 9.Qxc4 Bc6 10.Bf4 Nd5?!

10...Bd6 11.Qc1 (11.Nc3 Bxf4 12.gxf4) 11...Nbd7 12.Nc3 Qe7

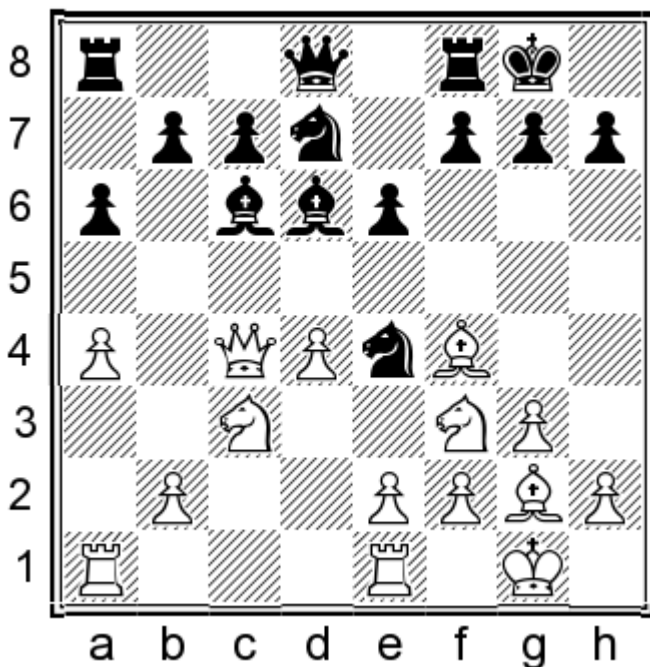
11.Bd2 Nd7 12.Re1

12.Ba5!? N7b6 (12...N5f6 13.Nbd2) 13.Qb3 Qe8 14.Bxb6 Nxb6 15.a5²

12...N5f6N

12...a5 13.e4 Nb4 14.Qb3² - 39/(593)

13.Nc3 Ne4 14.Bf4 Bd6



15.Bxd6

15.Qd3!? Nxc3 (15...Bxf4 16.Nxe4 Bd6 17.Neg5 Nf6 18.e4 h6 19.Nh3²; 15...f5 16.Bxd6 cxd6 (16...Nxd6 17.d5 exd5 (17...Bxd5 18.Nxd5 exd5 19.Qxd5+ Kh8 20.Rac1 ±) 18.Nd4! ±) 17.d5 Ndc5 18.Qc4 b5 19.axb5 Bxb5 (19...axb5 20.Qb4 exd5 21.Nd4 ±) 20.Nxb5 axb5 21.Qxb5²) 16.bxc3 Bxf4 17.gxf4 f5 18.Ng5 Bxg2 19.Kxg2 Nf6 20.Qc4²

15...cxd6

15...Nxd6 16.Qb3 (16.Qd3 Bxf3 17.Bxf3 c6 18.e4 Qe7 (18...e5 19.Bg4 ±) 19.e5 Nf5 20.Be4 g6 21.a5²) 16...Bxf3 17.Bxf3 c6 18.Red1 a5 19.e4²

16.d5 exd5 17.Nxd5 Ndf6 18.Nxf6+ Qxf6 19.Qd4 Rfe8 20.a5

20.Qxf6! Nxf6 21.e3 Rac8 22.Red1 Bd5 23.Nd4²

20...Rac8 21.Rac1

21.Qxf6 Nxf6 22.e3 g6 23.Red1 Bd5 24.Ne1 Bxg2 25.Kxg2 Rc6 26.Ra4²
Arsovic, Goran

21...Qf5!?

22.b4 h6 23.Rc2 Bb5 24.Rec1 Rxc2 25.Rxc2 d5 26.Ne1

26.e3 Bc4 27.Qb2²

26...Bc4

26...Qf6 27.Qxf6 Nxf6 28.Kf1 Bc4 29.Nd3 g5

27.Nd3 Bxd3 28.exd3 Nf6?

28...Ng5! 29.Qe3! (29.Bxd5? Qd7 30.Kf1 Nf3-+; 29.Qxd5? Qe1+ 30.Bf1 Qd1-+ Arsovic,Goran; 29.h4 Qe1+ 30.Kh2 Qd1 31.Rc5 Nf3+ 32.Bxf3 Qxf3 33.Qf4 Qxf4 34.gxf4 Re2 35.Rc8+ Kh7 36.Rc7 b5!=) 29...Qd7 (RR29...Qxe3?! 30.fxe3 Rxe3 31.Bxd5 Rxd3 32.Bxb7± Arsovic,Goran) 30.Qd2 Qf5 31.Qd1²

29.Bf3?

29.Bh3! h5 (RR29...Qe1+ 30.Kg2 Qd1 31.Rc8+-) 30.Kg2 Qd6 (30...Rd8 31.Qc5± Arsovic,Goran) 31.Qb6+-

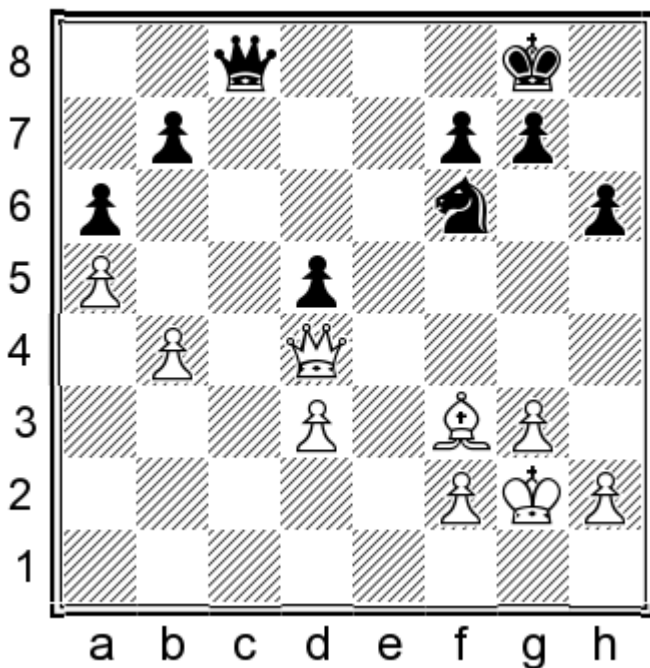
29...Qd7

29...Qe1+ 30.Kg2 Qb1 31.Re2! Rxe2 32.Bxe2 Qc2 33.Bf3 Qc6 34.Qc5² (34.h4²)

30.Kg2 Rc8 31.Rxc8+

31.Rc5 Rxc5 32.bxc5 Qb5 33.Qc3 Qc6 34.d4² Arsovic,Goran

31...Qxc8



32.g4! Qe6 33.h4 g5

33...g6!? 34.Qe3 Kg7 35.Kf1²

34.hxg5 hxg5 35.Qe3! Qxe3

RR35...Nh7 36.Qc5 Nf6 37.Qc7 + - Arsovic,Goran

36.fxe3 ± Kf8 37.e4 Ne8

37...dxe4? 38.dxe4 Nd7 39.e5 Nxe5 40.Bxb7 Nxg4 41.Kf3! + -

38.Kf2 Ke7

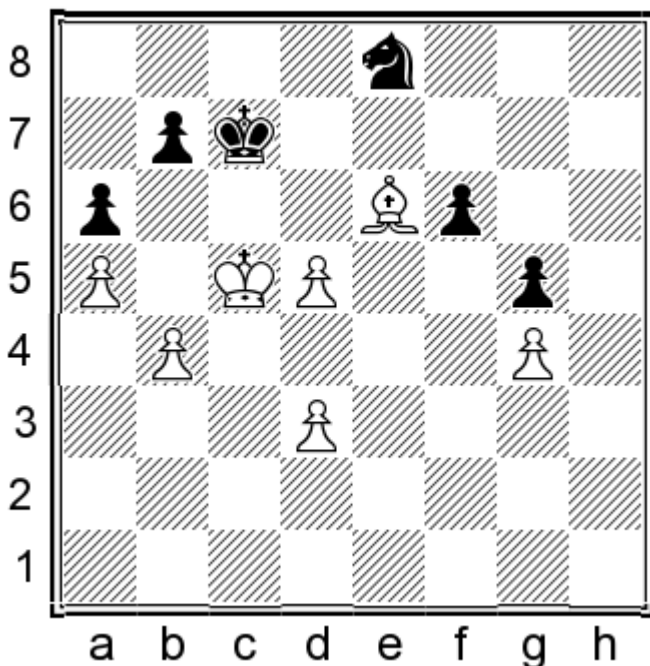
RR38...dxe4 39.Bxe4 Nd6 40.Ke3 Ke7 41.b5! Nxe4 (41...axb5 42.Bxb7! + -)

42.bxa6 bxa6 43.Kxe4 + - Arsovic,Goran

39.Ke3 Kd6 40.Kd4 f6 41.exd5 Kc7

41...Nc7 42.Bg2! (42.Ke4? Nxd5 43.Kf5 Nxb4 44.Bxb7 Nxd3 45.Kxf6 Kc5 =) 42...Nb5+ 43.Ke4 Ke7 44.d6+ Nxd6+ 45.Kd5 Kd7 46.Be4 Nb5 47.Kc5 + -

42.Kc5 Nd6 43.Be4 Nf7 44.Bf5 Nd6 45.Be6 Ne8



46.d6+! Nxd6 47.Kd5 Ne8 48.Bf5 Ng7 49.Bg6

49.Be4! b5 (49...Kd7 50.Bg6) 50.axb6+ Kxb6 51.Kd6 a5 52.bxa5+ Kxa5
53.d4 +-

49...Kd7 50.d4 Kc7 51.Bd3 Kd7 52.Bc2 Kc7? 53.Bg6⊖ Kd7 54.Kc5 Ne8

54...Ne6+ 55.Kb6 Nd8 56.Bf5+ Kd6 57.Be4 +-

55.Bxe8+ Kxe8 56.Kd5 Kf7 57.Ke4 1-0

174. E11

Mishra, Abhimanyu (2424) - Livaic, Leon (2507)

Budapest 148/174, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.e3 b6

5...Bxd2+ - 4/675

6.Bd3 Bb7 7.O-O Bxd2 8.Nbxd2 d6 9.e4 e5 10.Re1 c5N

10...Nbd7

11.d5 O-O 12.Nf1 Nh5 13.Ne3 g6 14.Nd2² Ng7 15.g4

15.a3 f5 16.exf5 gxf5 17.f3 Nd7 18.Qc2 Qg5 19.g3²

15...Nd7

15...h5 16.h3 Nd7 17.Qf3 Qg5 18.Qg3²

16.f3 Nf6 17.Qe2 Bc8 18.Kh1 Bd7 19.Rg1 a6 20.Nb1 Nfe8

20...h5 21.Qf2 (21.g5?! Nh7 22.Qg2 h4 23.Nc3 b5³) 21...b5,,

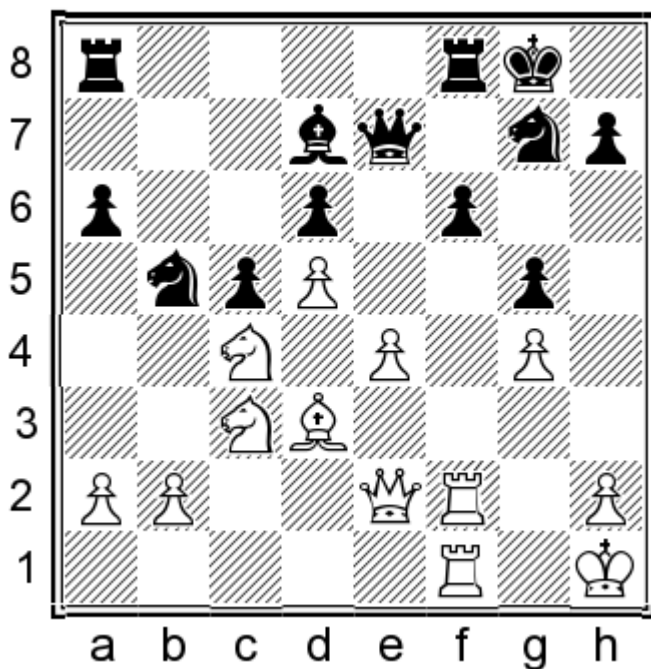
21.Nc3 Nc7 22.Raf1 b5 23.f4 exf4 24.Rxf4 f6

24...b4 25.Ncd1 Rae8 26.Rgf1 a5 27.Qf2²

25.Rgf1 g5 26.R4f2 bxc4?

26...b4?! 27.e5! Qxe5 (27...fxe5 28.Ne4 Rf4 29.h4! gxh4 30.g5! +-) 28.Ne4 Nce8 29.Bb1 Rf7 30.Qd3 Rc8 31.Ng2 +-; 26...Qe5 27.cxb5 axb5 28.a4! b4 (28...bxa4 29.Nc4 Qd4 30.Rg2 ±) 29.Nb5 Nxb5 30.axb5 ±

27.Nxc4 Nb5



28.e5! Nd4

28...fxe5?! 29.Qe4 +-; 28...dxe5 29.Qe4 (29.Ne4 Nd4 30.Qd2 Ne8 31.Nxg5 +-) 29...Ne8 30.d6 Nexd6 31.Nd5 Nxe4 32.Nxe7+ Kf7 33.Bxe4 Kxe7 34.Bxa8 +-

29.exf6 Nxe2 30.fxe7 Rxf2 31.Rxf2 Nf4 32.Rxf4!?

32.Nb6 Ra7 (32...Nxd3 33.Rf6 +-) 33.Ne4 Ne8 34.Bc2 h6 35.h4 +-

32...gxf4 33.Nxd6 Ne8 34.Nce4 Kg7 35.Nxe8+ Rxe8 36.d6 Bxg4 37.Bxa6 Bd7

37...Bf3+ 38.Kg1 Bxe4 39.d7 +-

38.Nxc5

38.Bb7 f3 39.Kg1 Bb5 40.b3 +-

38...Bc6+ 39.Kg1 Kf6 40.Bb7 Bxb7 41.Nxb7 Ke6 42.a4 Kd7 43.a5 Rc8
44.a6 Ke8 45.b4 h5 46.Nc5 Kf7 47.a7 Ra8 48.Na6 1-0

175. E16

Grischuk, Alexander (2777) - Giri, Anish (2763)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/175, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 c5 7.Bxb4 cxb4 8.O-O
O-O 9.Nbd2 d6 10.Qb3 a5 11.a3

11.Rfc1 - 32/576

11...Na6

11...bxa3 12.bxa3 Nbd7 13.Ne1 Qc7 14.Bxb7 (14.e4 e5 =) 14...Qxb7 15.Nc2
Rac8 16.Ne3 Rc7 17.Rab1 Rfc8 18.Qd3 d5! 19.Rb5 g6 20.Rfb1 Qa8 =

12.Rfd1

12.Nh4 Bxg2 13.Nxg2 e5 14.Nf3 Re8 ∞

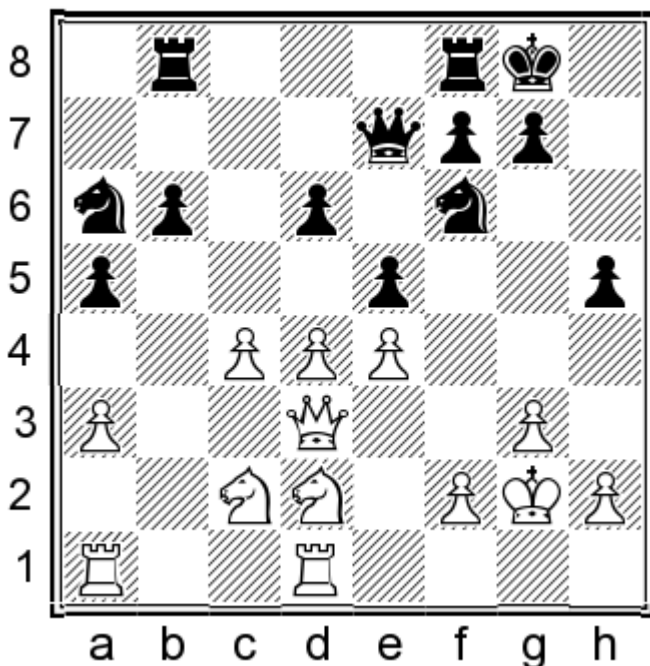
12...Qe7 13.Ne1 Bxg2 14.Kxg2N

14.Nxg2

14...h5 15.Nc2 bxa3 16.bxa3 Rab8 17.e4

17.Ne3²

17...e5 18.Qd3



18.f3²

18...Nc7

18...exd4! 19.Nxd4 (19.f3 Nc5 20.Qxd4 b5 =) 19...Nc5 20.Nf5 Qb7 21.Qe3 Nfxe4! (21...Ncxe4? 22.f3 Nxd2 23.Rxd2 ... Qg5 ±) 22.f3 Nxd2 23.Rxd2 Rfe8! (23...Ne6 24.Rad1 ±) 24.Qc3 (24.Qg5 g6 25.Nxd6 Qe7 =) 24...Re5 25.Rd5 Rbe8 26.Nxd6 Rxd5 27.Nxb7 Re2+ 28.Kf1 Rdd2 =

19.Rab1

19.Ne3 Ne6 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.Nd5 Nxd5 22.cxd5²

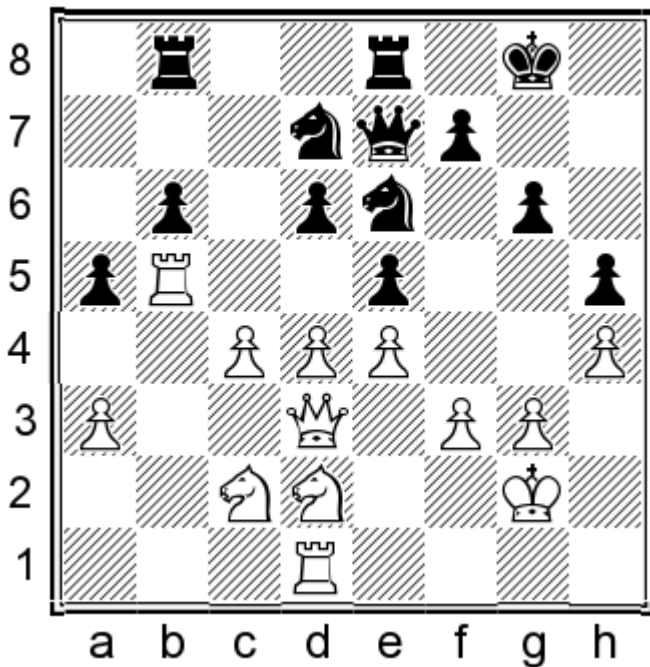
19...Ne6 20.Rb5 Rfe8

20...h4 21.Nf3 Qb7 22.Re1 hxg3 23.hxg3 Rfe8 24.Nh4 g6 25.d5! Nc5 26.Qe3 Nfxe4 27.Qh6 Nxf2 28.Ne3! Qe7 29.Nhf5 Qf6 (29...Qf8 30.Qh4 +-) 30.Rb2! Ncd3 (30...Nfd3 31.Rh1 +-) 31.Rxf2 Nxf2 32.Kxf2 e4 33.Kg1 Re5 34.g4 +- (34.Rf1 +-)

21.h4 g6 22.f3

22.dxe5 dxe5 23.Ne3 Nd4 24.Nd5 Nxd5 25.Rxd5 ∞

22...Nd7?!



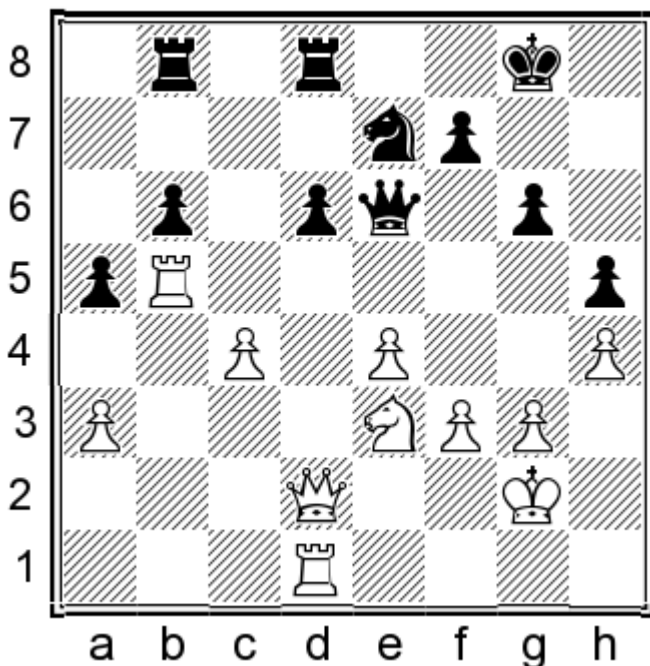
22...Rec8! 23.Nf1 (23.Rdb1 Nd7 24.Nf1?? exd4 25.Nxd4 Ne5- +) 23...Nc7
24.Rbb1 b5,,

23.Nf1! exd4 24.Nxd4 Ne5

24...Nxd4 25.Qxd4 Rbc8 26.Ne3 Rc6 ±

25.Qe2 Nxd4 26.Rxd4 Nc6 27.Rd1 Qe6 28.Ne3 Ne7 29.Qd2 f5

29...Red8



30.g4! hxg4 (30...Nc6 31.gxh5 Ne5 32.hxg6 Qxg6+ 33.Ng4 +-) 31.Nxg4 +-

30.Qxd6 Nc6 31.exf5 gxf5 32.Qxe6+ Rxe6 33.Nxf5 +- Ne5 34.Rd6 Ree8
 35.Rd4 Nc6 36.Rd2 Rbd8 37.Rxd8 Rxd8 38.Rd5 Rxd5 39.cxd5 Ne5
 40.Nd6 Kf8 41.Kf2 Ke7 42.Nb5 Kf6 43.Ke3 Kf5 44.Nd6+ Kf6 45.Ke4 Nd7
 46.Kd4 Ke7 47.Nb5 Kf6 48.Nc3 Kf5 49.Ne4 Kg6 50.g4 b5 51.Nc5 1-0

176. E17

Wojtaszek, Radoslaw (2694) - Moranda, Wojciech (2618)
 Polska (ch-m/4-rapid) 148/176, 2021

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 b6 3.d4 Bb7 4.c4 e6 5.Bg2 Be7 6.O-O O-O 7.Re1 Ne4
 8.Nfd2 d5 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Nc3 f5

10...Nxc3 11.bxc3 Nd7 12.c4²

11.Ndxe4 dxe4 12.Bf4 Nc6

12...Kh8 - 89/(447)

12...Bd6 13.Bxd6 Qxd6 (13...cxd6 14.Rc1 d5 15.e3²) 14.Rc1 a6 15.e3 Nd7
 16.Qb3+ Kh8 17.a4²

13.Qb3+ Kh8

13...Rf7 14.e3 g5 15.Be5 Bf6 16.Rad1²

14.d5

14.Red1 Bd6 15.Bxd6 cxd6 16.d5 Ne7 17.e3 Ba6 18.Qa3 Bc4 19.Rac1²

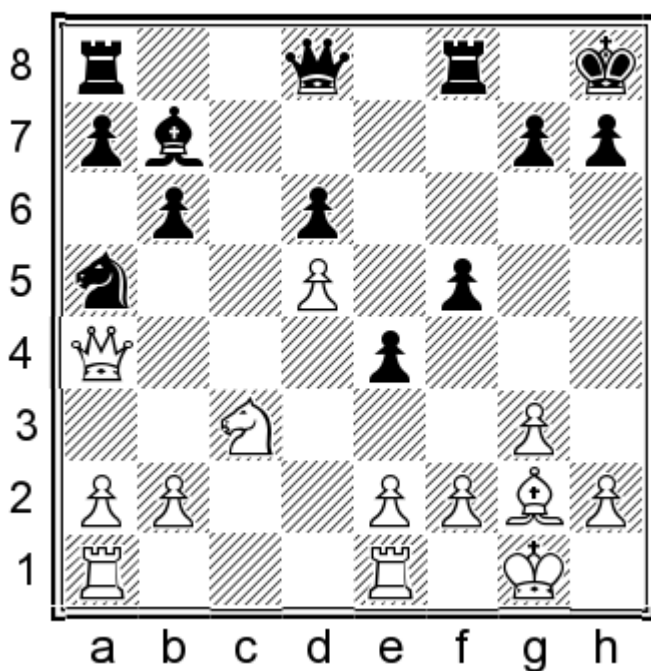
14...Na5N

14...Nd4

15.Qa4 Bd6

15...Bxd5?! 16.Red1 (16.Bxc7!? Qxc7 17.Nxd5 Qc6 (17...Qc5 18.Nxe7 Qxe7 19.Rac1 ±) 18.Qxc6 Nxc6 19.Rac1 Bb4 20.Red1 (20.Nxb4 Nxb4 21.a3 Nd5 22.f3²) 20...Bc5 21.Nc7 Nd4 22.Bf1²) 16...c6 17.Nxd5 cxd5 18.Rac1 Bg5 19.b4 Bxf4 20.gxf4 Nb7 21.Qc6 Qe7 22.Rxd5 ±; 15...Bf6 16.Rac1 c5 17.Red1²

16.Bxd6 cxd6



16...Qxd6 17.Rac1 c5 (17...Qe7 18.g4! ±) 18.f3 exf3 19.exf3 Rad8 20.f4 ±

17.Rac1

17.f3! Rc8 (17...exf3 18.exf3 Rc8 19.Qd4 ±) 18.Qd4 Rc4 19.Qf2 exf3 20.exf3 f4 21.Rad1 ±

17...Rc8 18.Qd4 Ba6 19.f3 Nc4 20.fxe4 f4 21.gxf4

21.Rf1 Qg5 (21...fxg3 22.Rxf8+ Qxf8 23.hxg3 Qe7 24.Rf1 Nxb2 25.Bh3 Rf8 26.Rxf8+ Qxf8 27.e5 dxe5 28.Qxe5 ±) 22.gxf4 Rxf4 23.Rxf4 Qxf4 24.Rf1

Qg5 25.Kh1 Nxb2² - 21.gf4

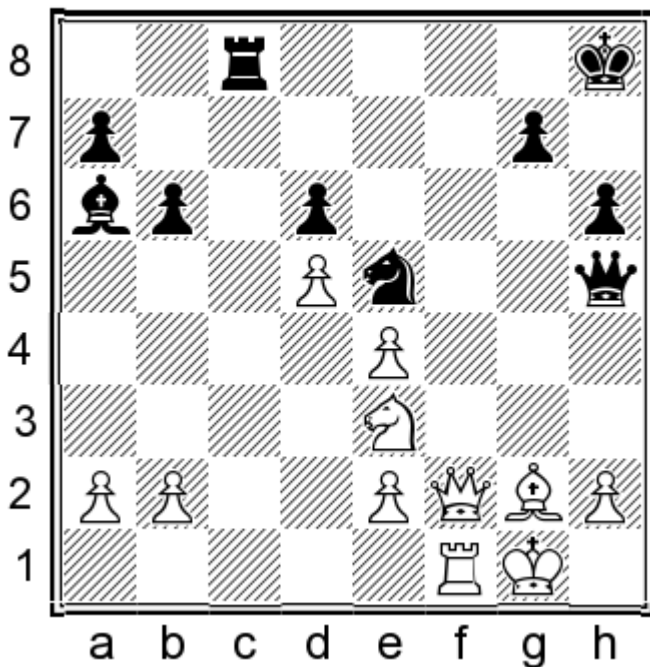
21...Rxf4 22.Rf1 Rxf1+ 23.Rxf1 Qg5 24.Nd1

24.Kh1 Nxb2 25.Bh3 Ra8 26.e5! Qxe5 27.Qxe5 dxe5 28.Rf7²

24...Ne5

24...h6 25.Qd3 Bb5 26.Qg3 (26.Qh3 Ba6 27.Qg3 Qd2©) 26...Qxg3 27.hxg3 Ne5©

25.Qf2 h6 26.Ne3 Qh5?



26...Rc7 27.h4 Qh5 28.Qf8+ (28.Nf5 Qxe2 29.Nxd6 Qxf2+ 30.Rxf2 Rc1+ 31.Bf1 Ng4 32.Rf3 Kh7∞) 28...Kh7 29.Qxd6 Qxe2! 30.Qxc7 Qxe3+ 31.Kh1 Qg3 32.Qc3 Qxc3 33.bxc3 Bxf1 34.Bxf1 Kg6 35.Kg2 Kf6 36.Kg3 g5 37.hxg5+ hxg5 =

27.Nf5! Qxe2 28.Qxe2 Bxe2 29.Nxd6 + - Rc7 30.Rf8+ Kh7 31.Rc8 Rd7 32.Nf5 g6 33.Nd4 Bh5 34.Re8 Nc4 35.b3

35.e5 Ne3 36.e6

35...g5 36.Rc8 Ne3 37.Ne6 Rf7 38.d6 Bg4 39.d7 1-0

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3 O-O 5.Bg5 c5 6.Rc1 cxd4 7.Nxd4 e5

7...h6 - 144/180

8.Nb5 d5 9.cxd5 a6 10.Na3?!N

10.Bxf6 Qxf6

10...Qxd5 11.Bxf6

11.Qxd5 Nxd5 12.Nb1 =

11...Qxd1+ 12.Kxd1 gxf6 13.Nc4?!

13.Nd5 Bxa3 14.bxa3 Nc6f

13...Rd8+ 14.Kc2 Nc6

¹14...Bxc3 15.bxc3 (15.Kxc3 b5 16.Ne3 Nc6 17.b3 Nd4 18.Kb2 Be6μ)

15...Bf5+ 16.Kb2 Nd7³

15.Nb6 Rb8 16.Nxc8 Rbxc8 17.e3 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Nb4+ 19.Kb3 Nd3

20.Bxd3 Rxd3 21.a4 e4 22.h4 f5 23.h5

23.Rhd1 Rcx3+ 24.Rxc3 Rxd1 25.Rc5 =

23...Kg7

23...Rd2!? 24.Rc2 Rd6

24.Rh4! Kf6 25.Rf4! Rg8 26.Rg1

26.g3

26...Rg4 27.Rxg4

27.g3!?!; 27.Kc4!?

27...fxg4 28.Kc2 g3

¹28...Rd5μ

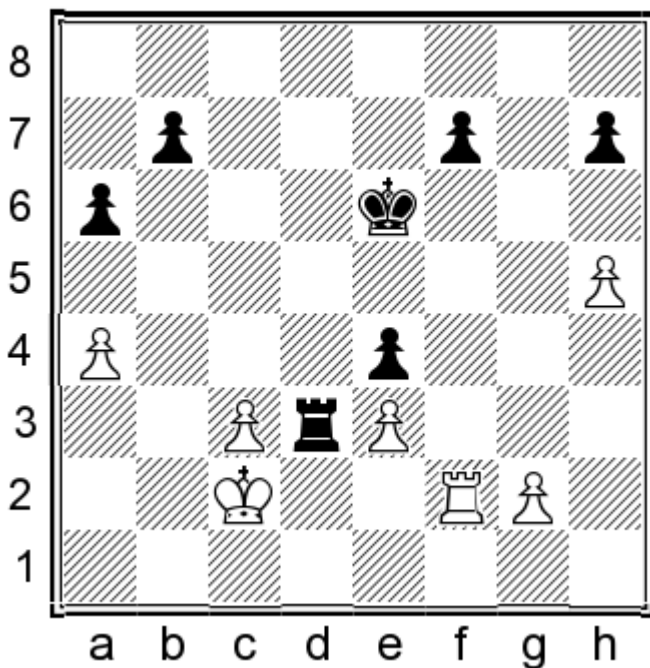
29.Rf1

29.fxg3!? Rxe3 30.Rf1+ Kg7 31.g4

29...gxf2?!

29...Kg5!?

30.Rxf2+ Ke6



31.Re2?

31.Rf4! Rxe3 32.g4 =

31...f5μ 32.Re1

32.Kb3

32...Kf6 33.Rb1

33.c4

33...Rxe3- + 34.Rxb7 Re2+ 35.Kd1 Rxg2 36.Rxh7 f4 37.h6 f3 38.Rh8 Kg6 39.h7 Kg7

39...Ra2

40.Re8 Kxh7 41.Ke1 Re2+ 42.Kf1 Kg6 43.c4 Kf5 44.c5 Rc2 0-1

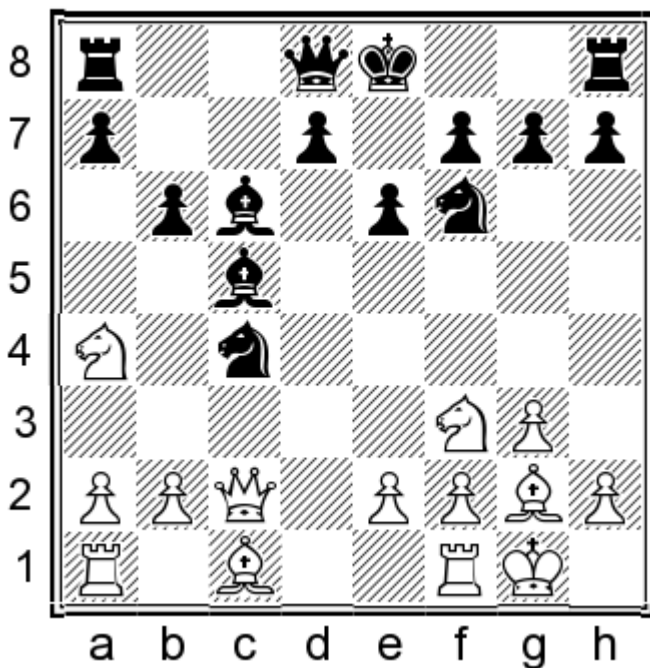
178. E21

Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2770) - Praggnanandhaa, Rameshbabu (2608)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/178, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3 b6 5.Qb3 c5 6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.g3 Bb7 8.Bg2 Nc6 9.O-O?! Na5 10.Qa4N

10.Qc2

10...Bc6 11.Qc2 Nxc4 12.Na4



12...Be7!

12...Bxa4 13.Qxa4 Rc8 14.a3 a5 15.b3 Nd6 16.Bb2©

13.Qxc4

13.e4 b5! 14.Nd4 Bxe4 15.Bxe4 Nxe4 16.Qxe4 Nd6 17.Qe5 f6 18.Qh5+ g6
19.Qd1 bxa4 20.Qxa4 O-Oµ

13...b5 14.Qh4

14.Qd4 bxa4 15.Ne5 Bxg2 16.Kxg2 Qa5µ

14...bxa4 15.Rd1 Qb6 16.Be3 Qb7

16...Qxb2 17.Rdb1 Qc3µ

17.Rac1 O-O 18.Bd4 h6 19.g4 Qb5

19...Rfc8!? 20.g5 hxg5 21.Qxg5 d6µ

20.g5 hxg5?!

20...Ne8µ

21.Nxg5 Qf5 22.Bxc6?!

22.Rc3! Bxg2 23.Kxg2³

22...dxc6 23.Nf3

23.Rxc6? Nd5- + ; 23.Kh1!?

23...Nd5?

23...Rad8 24.Bxf6 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Qxf6 26.Qxf6 Bxf6μ; 23...c5 24.Be5
(24.Bxf6 Bxf6 25.Qxa4 Rab8! 26.Qxa7 (26.b3 Rb4 27.Qa5 Re4 28.Qb5 a6!
29.Qxa6 Bb2 30.Rb1 c4!- +) 26...Qe4μ) 24...a3 25.bxa3 Nd5μ

24.Qg3 Bf6

24...Nf6 25.Ne5 Bd6∞; ¹24...f6

25.Kf1?!

25.Rc5 Bxd4 26.Nxd4 Qe4 27.Qd3 = ; 25.Re1 Bxd4 26.Nxd4 =

25...Rfd8 26.Bxf6

26.Be5!?

26...Nxf6 27.Qe5 Qh3+ 28.Kg1 Qg4+ 29.Qg3?!

29.Kf1³

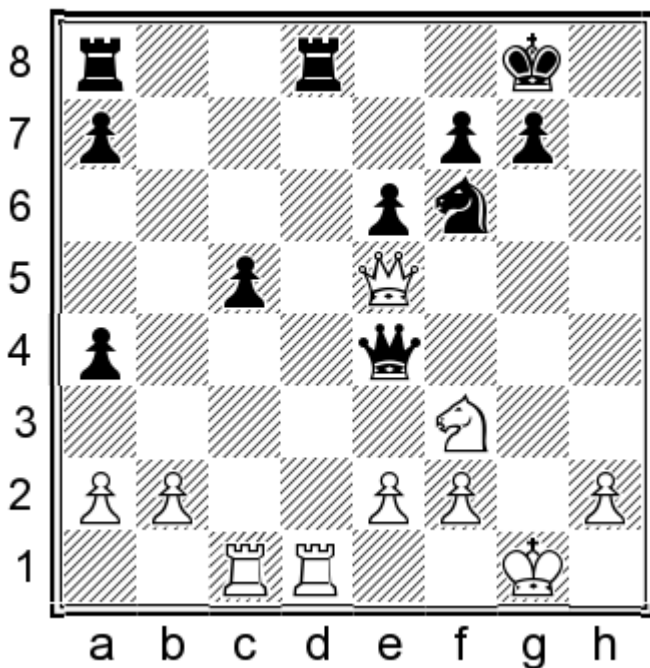
29...Qe4?!

29...Rxd1+ 30.Rxd1 Qc4- +

30.Qe5 Qg4+?!

30...Rxd1+ 31.Rxd1 Qc4μ

31.Qg3 Qe4?! 32.Qe5 c5?!



33.Qxe4?!

33.Rxd8+! Rxd8 34.Rxc5 =

33...Nxe4?!

33...Rxd1+ 34.Rxd1 Nxe4³

34.Rxd8+ Rxd8 35.Rc4 f5

¹35...a3

36.Rxa4 = g5 37.h3 Rd1+ 38.Kg2 Rb1 39.b3 Rb2 40.Kf1 Rb1+ 41.Kg2 Rb2 42.Kf1 Kg7 43.Rxa7+ Kf6 44.Ra5 Rb1+ 45.Kg2 Rb2 46.Kf1 Nc3 47.Ng1

47.Rxc5?! Nxe2 48.Ne1 Nd4³

47...Nxa2 48.Rxc5 Rxb3 49.Nf3 Rb6 50.Ne5 Rb1+ 51.Kg2 Rb2 52.e3 Nb4 53.Rb5 Nd3 54.Rxb2 Nxb2 55.Nd7+ Ke7 56.Ne5 Kf6 57.Nd7+ Ke7 58.Ne5 Kf6 1/2-1/2

179. E24

So, Wesley (2770) - Carlsen, Magnus (2847)

chess24.com (Int.-m2/1-rapid) 148/179, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 Nc6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.e4 Ba6 8.Bg5

h6 9.Bh4 Qc8 10.Bd3 Na5 11.Qe2N

11.Qa4 - 11/485

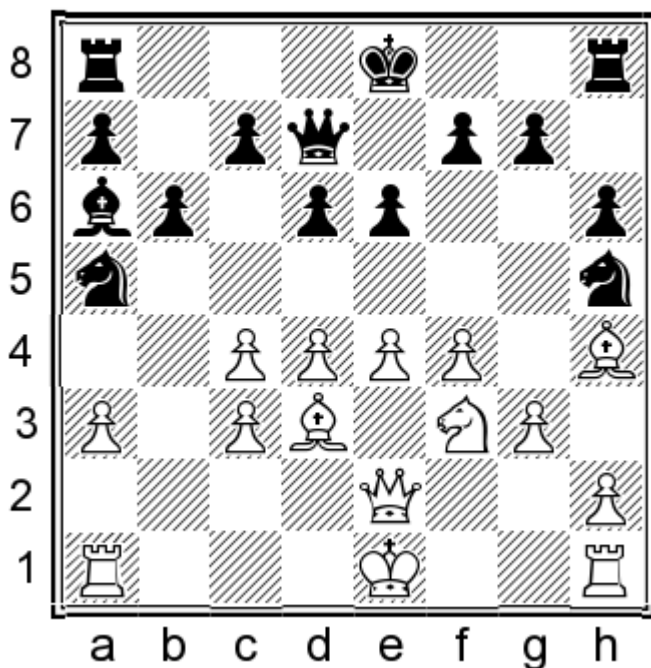
11...d6

11...c5 12.d5 (12.e5 Nh5 13.Nh3 cxd4 14.g4 g5 15.Bf2 Nf4 16.Nxf4 gxf4
17.cxd4 Bxc4 18.O-O©) 12...g5 (12...d6 13.Nh3 g5 14.Bg3 e5 15.O-O²)
13.Bg3 Nh5 14.Nh3 Nxg3 15.hxg3 Qc7 16.e5²; ¹11...Qb7

12.f4 Qd7 13.Nf3?

13.e5 Nh7 (13...Ng8 14.Nf3 Ne7 15.O-O²) 14.Nh3 d5 15.cxd5 Bxd3 16.Qxd3
Qxd5 17.O-O O-O 18.f5 exf5 19.Rxf5f

13...Nh5! 14.g3?!



14.Bg3

14...g5!! 15.fxg5 hxg5 16.Nxg5

16.Bxg5? Nxg3 17.Qg2 Nxh1 18.Bf6 Rf8- +

16...Nf4! 17.gxf4 Rxh4³ 18.Qf2?!

18.Nf3 Rxf4 19.Rg1 O-O-O³

18...Rh8

¹18...Rh6

19.f5?!

19.Qe2

19...O-O-O 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Qf7 Rdg8 22.Qxd7+ Kxd7 23.Nf3 Rh3

23...Bxc4- +

24.Kf2 Rf8 25.Be2 Bxc4- + 26.Raf1 Rf4 27.Ke3?!

27.Kg2 Bxe2 28.Kxh3 Rxf3+ 29.Rxf3 Bxf3 30.Re1 Nc4

27...e5! 28.dxe5 dxe5 29.Rhg1 Bxe2 30.Kxe2 Rxe4+ 31.Kf2 Nc4 32.Rg3 Rh6 33.a4 a5 34.Rfg1 Rf4 35.Kg2 Ne3+ 36.Kh1 Nf5 37.Nxe5+ Ke6 38.Rg4 Rf2 0-1

E25-E49

180. E32

So, Wesley (2770) - Aronian, Levon (2781)

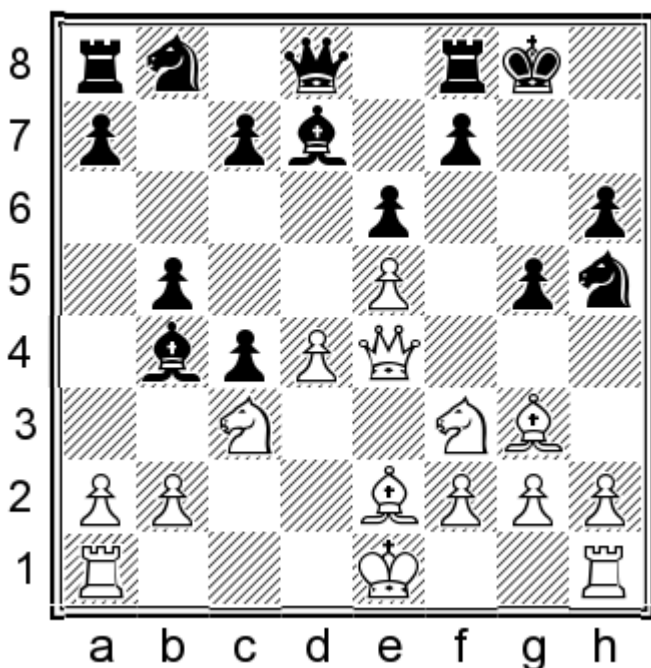
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/180, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 O-O 5.Nf3 d5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4

7.Bxf6 - 140/184

7...dxc4 8.e4 g5 9.Bg3 b5 10.e5 Nh5 11.Qe4 Qd5N

11...Bd7!? 12.h4 (12.Qxa8? Bc6 13.Qxa7 Bxf3 14.d5 (14.gxf3 Nc6 15.Qb7 Qxd4 16.Be2 Bxc3+ 17.Kf1 Bxb2 18.Rb1 (18.Rd1 Qc5 19.Qxc7 Nxc3+ 20.hxc3 Bxe5 21.Qb7 Rb8 22.Qd7 c3- +) 18...Nb4- +) 14...Bxd5 15.Qe3 (15.a3 Nc6 16.Qe3 Ba5 17.O-O-O Bxc3 18.Qxc3 Qa8μ,) 15...Nc6μ; 12.Be2

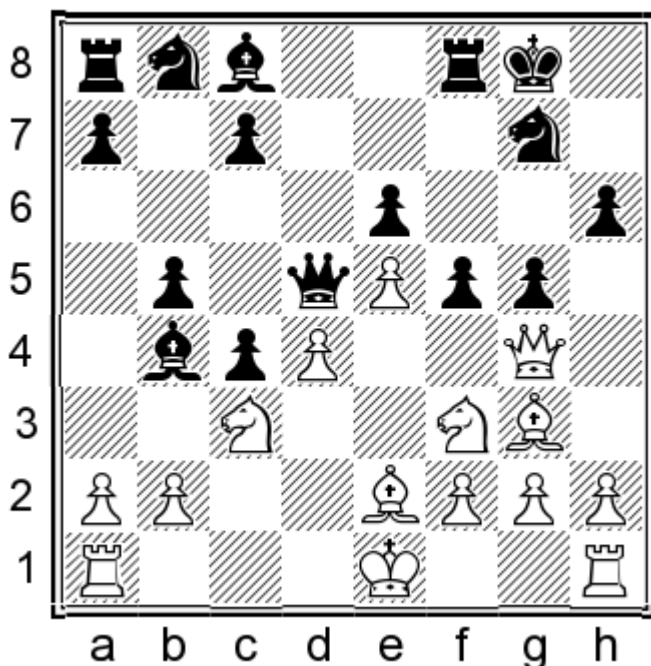


12...c5!? 13.Qg4 Ng7 14.h4 h5 15.Qxg5 Qxg5 16.hxc5 Bc6 17.dxc5 Bxc5 ∞)
 12...Nxc3 13.fxc3 Bc6 14.Qg4 h5 15.Qxh5 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Qxd4 17.hxc5
 Bxc3+ 18.bxc3 Qxc3+ 19.Kf2 Qd4+™ 20.Kg2 Qb2+! =; 11...c5!?

12.Qg4 Ng7 13.Be2

13.Nd2 Bxc3 14.bxc3 ∞

13...f5?



13...Nc6f

14.Qh3!

14.exf6? e5 15.f7+ Kh7! 16.Nxg5+ hxg5 17.Qxg5 Qxf7 18.O-O Nc6μ

14...g4

14...h5 15.Nxg5 Qxd4 (15...Qd8 16.Bf4 Be7 17.Bxh5 Bxg5 18.Bg6 Bh4 19.Rg1! Nc6 20.g3+ -) 16.O-O Qd2 17.Qh4 Bxc3 18.Bxh5 Nxh5 19.Qxh5 Qd7 20.bxc3 +- -

15.Qxh6 +- gx f3 16.Bxf3 Qxd4 17.O-O! c6

17...Nd7 18.Rad1

18.Rad1 Qb6 19.Ne4

19.Bh4!?

19...fxe4 20.Bxe4 Rf5 21.Bxf5 exf5 22.e6! [... Be5] 22...Bf8 23.Be5 c5 24.Bxg7! Bxg7 25.e7 Bd7

25...Bxh6 26.e8=Q+ Bf8 27.Qxc8; 25...Qxh6 26.e8=Q+ Kh7 27.Qxc8

26.Qh5 Qc6 27.Rfe1 Be8 28.Rd8 Na6 29.Re6! Qd7

29...Qxe6 30.Qxe8+

30.Rxa8 Nc7 31.Rd8 Nxe6 32.Rxe8+ Nf8 33.Rxf8+ 1-0

181. E34

Vidit, Santosh Gujrathi (2726) - Carlsen, Magnus (2847)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/181, 2021

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.cxd5 Qxd5 6.e3 c5 7.Bd2 Bxc3
8.bxc3 b6 9.f3!?**

9.Nf3 - 87/451

9...Qc6N

9...Nc6 10.e4 Qd8 11.Bb5!? (11.Be3)

10.Qb3

10.a4!? Ba6 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Qd3 Nb8 (12...c4 13.Qc2²) 13.Ne2 O-O 14.e4f

10...Ba6 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Ne2 O-O 13.e4 Rfc8 14.Kf2 Nb8 15.a4

15.g4!?!; 15.h4!?

15...Nbd7 16.Bf4 a6 17.Rab1 h6 18.Rhd1 Qb7 19.h4

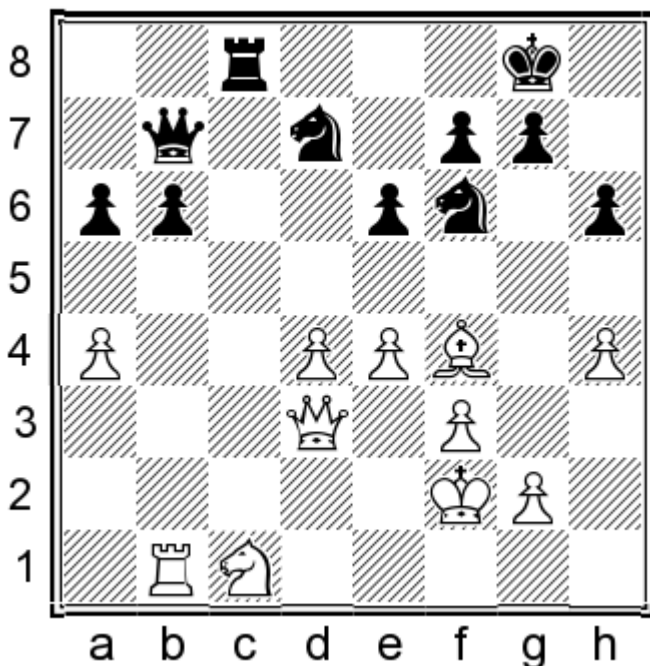
19.Ng3!?!f

19...cxd4 20.cxd4 Rc6 21.Rdc1

21.Rbc1

21...Rac8 22.Qd3 Rxc1 23.Bxc1

23.Nxc1



23...e5!? 24.dxe5 (24.Bxe5 Nxe5 25.dxe5 Nd7©) 24...Nc5 25.Qe3 Nfd7∞;
23.Rxc1 Rxc1 24.Bxc1 b5 =

**23...Ne8 24.Bf4 Rc6 25.g4 Qc8 26.g5 hxg5 27.hxg5 Rc4 28.Qa3 Rc2
29.Rc1**

29.Qb3!?

29...Rxc1 30.Bxc1 Nf8 31.Qd3

31.Bf4!?!; 31.Qb4!?

31...Nd6 = 32.d5

32.Ba3 Nc4 33.Bxf8 Kxf8 =

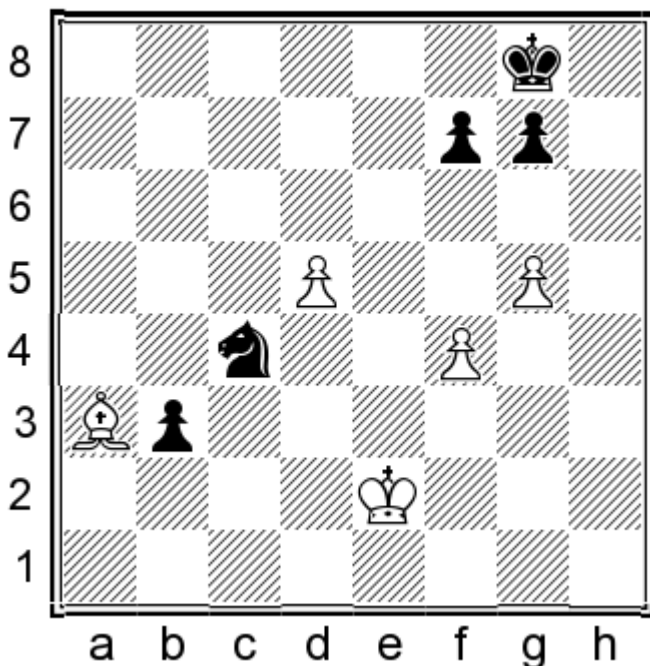
**32...Nc4 33.Be3 exd5 34.exd5 b5 35.axb5 axb5 36.Nd4 Qb8 37.f4 Ng6
38.Kg3 Qe8 39.Nf5 Ne7 40.Nxe7+ Qxe7 41.Bf2 Nd6 42.Kf3 Qd7 43.Kg3**

43.Bc5 Qh3+ 44.Ke2 Qg2+ 45.Ke1 Ne4 46.Bd4 b4 47.Be5 =

43...b4 44.Bc5 Qf5!?

44...Nf5+ 45.Kg2 Nh4+ 46.Kg3 Nf5+ =

45.Qxf5™ Nxf5+ 46.Kf3 b3 47.Ba3 Nd6 48.Ke2 Nc4



49.d6™ Nxd6 50.Kd3 Nf5 51.Kc4 Kh7 52.Kxb3 Nd4+ 53.Kc4 Ne6 54.f5
54.Bd6 Kg6 55.Kd3 Kf5 56.Ke3 =

54...Nxc5 55.Kd5 Nf3 56.Bc1 Ng1 57.Ke4 Ne2 58.Bd2 Ng3+ 59.Kf4 Nh5+
60.Kg4 Nf6+ 61.Kf3 Kg8 62.Bc3 Nd5 63.Bb2 f6 64.Ba3 Kf7 65.Ke4 Nb6
66.Bc5 Nd7 67.Bd6 Nb6 68.Bc5 Nc8 69.Ba3 Ne7 70.Bb4 Ke8 71.Ba3 g6
72.fxg6 Nxc6 73.Bb2 Ne5 74.Bxe5 fxe5 75.Kxe5 1/2-1/2

182. E35

Braun, Arik (2609) - Svane, Rasmus (2613)
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/182, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Nc6
7...c5 - 135/179

8.e3 g5 9.Bg3 h5 10.Bb5 h4 11.Be5 O-O 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.h3 Ne4 14.Ne2
Ba6N

14...Bf5

15.O-O

15.Qa4 Bxe2 16.Qxb4 a5 17.Qa3 Ba6∞; 15.f3!?!; 15.a3!?

15...Bxc3

15...f6!?

16.bxc3 f6 17.Bh2 Qe7 18.Rfe1 Rfe8

18...Rae8!?!; 18...Qh7!?

19.Nc1! Nd6 20.Nb3 Qe4 21.Qd1

21.Qc1!?

21...Bc4 22.Nc5?!

22.Na5!?!; 22.Nd2!?

22...Qf5

¹22...Qg6

23.f3

23.Bxd6 cxd6 24.Nb7 Qd7 25.Na5 Kg7 =

23...Rab8 24.Qd2 Kg7 25.Rac1 a5

25...Re7 =

26.Rc2 Bb5?!

26...a4!?! 27.Bxd6 cxd6 28.Nxa4 Re7 29.Nb2 Bxa2 30.c4 dxc4 31.Nxc4 Bxc4
32.Rxc4 Rb1 33.Rxc6 Rxe1+ 34.Qxe1 Qd3 35.Kf2 Ra7©

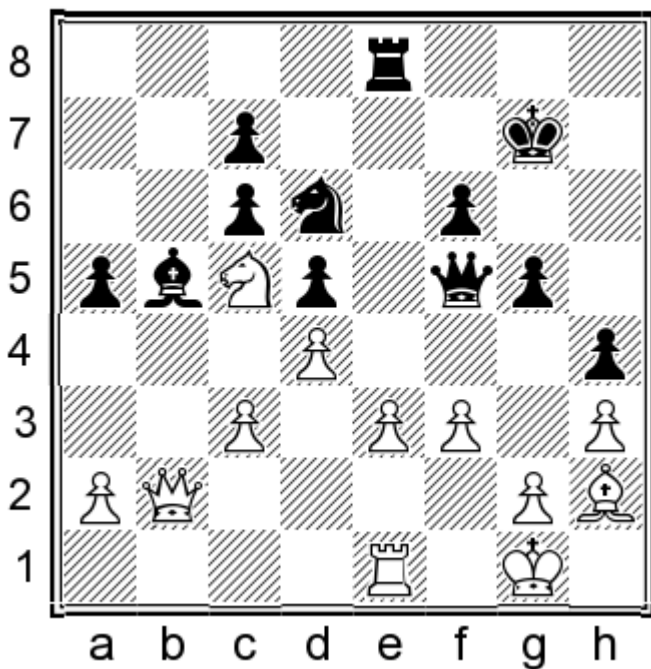
27.Qc1

27.a4!?

27...Bd3

27...Bc4!?

28.Rb2 Rxb2 29.Qxb2 Bb5?



29...Nc4

30.a4! Bc4 31.Kh1?

31.Bxd6! cxd6 32.Qb7+ Kf8 (32...Kg6 33.Qxc6 + -) 33.Nd7+ Kg8 34.e4! + -

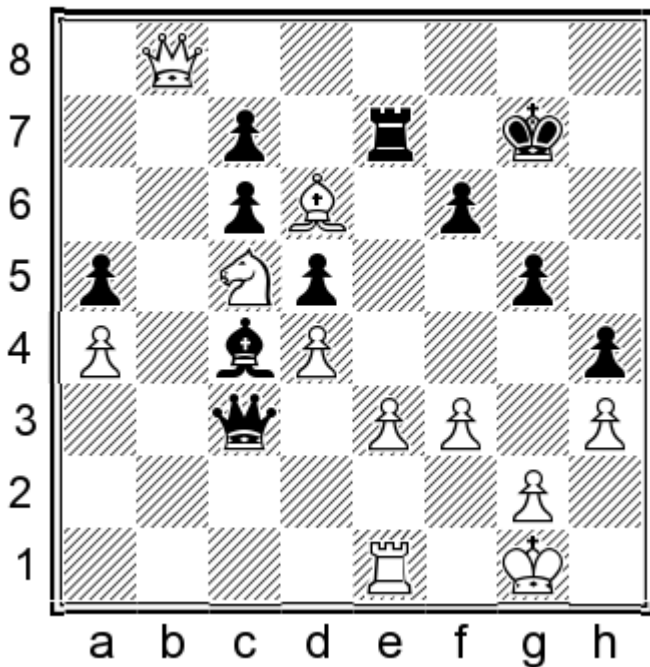
31...Qg6 32.Kg1 Re7

32...Kh6!?

33.Qb8

33.Bxd6 cxd6 34.Nb7 Bd3! 35.Nxd6 f5 36.Nb7 g4 37.Nc5 Bc4©

33...Qc2 = 34.Bxd6 Qxc3?!



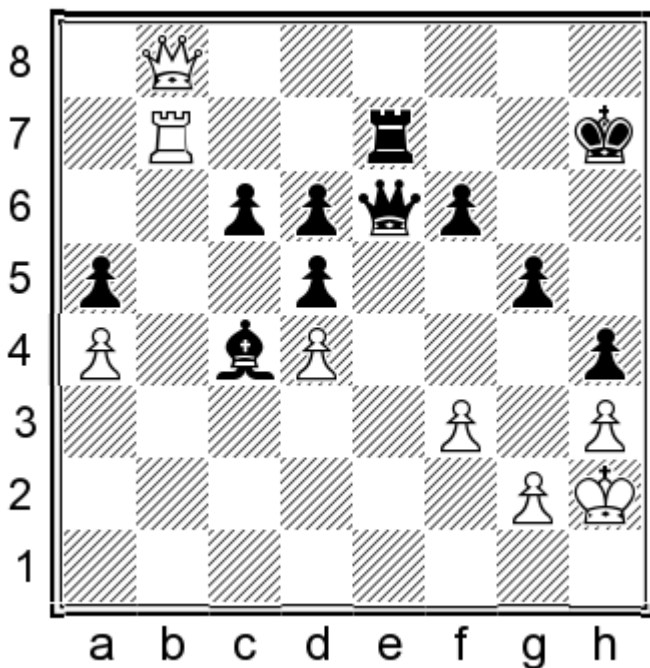
34...cxd6 35.Qxd6 Kf7 =

35.Ne6+! Kh7™

35...Rxe6? 36.Qf8+ Kh7 37.Qf7+ Kh8 38.Rb1 Qxe3+ 39.Kh2 +-

36.Qf8?!

36.Rb1 Qxe3+ 37.Kh2 cxd6 38.Rb7 Qxe6



39.Qe8! Qxh3+ 40.Kxh3 Rxb7 41.Qxc6²; 36.Qb1+! Bd3 37.Qxd3+ Qxd3
38.Bxe7 ±

36...Qxe1+ 37.Kh2 Rxe6 38.Qf7+ Kh8 39.Qf8+ Kh7 40.Qf7+ Kh8 41.Qf8+ Kh7 1/2-1/2

183. E42

Navara, David (2697) - Meier, Georg (2628)
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/183, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Ne2 cxd4 6.exd4 d5 7.c5 Ne4 8.Bd2
Nxd2 9.Qxd2 a5 10.a3 Bxc3 11.Nxc3 a4 12.Bd3 Bd7 13.O-O O-O 14.f4
Nc6?!N

14...g6 - 26/648

15.f5! ± exf5 16.Bxf5 Ne7 17.Bc2 Bc6 18.Rae1 Qd7 19.Qg5

19.h4!?→

19...Ng6 20.h4

20.Re3

20...Rfe8! 21.h5

21.Bf5!?!; 21.Rd1!?

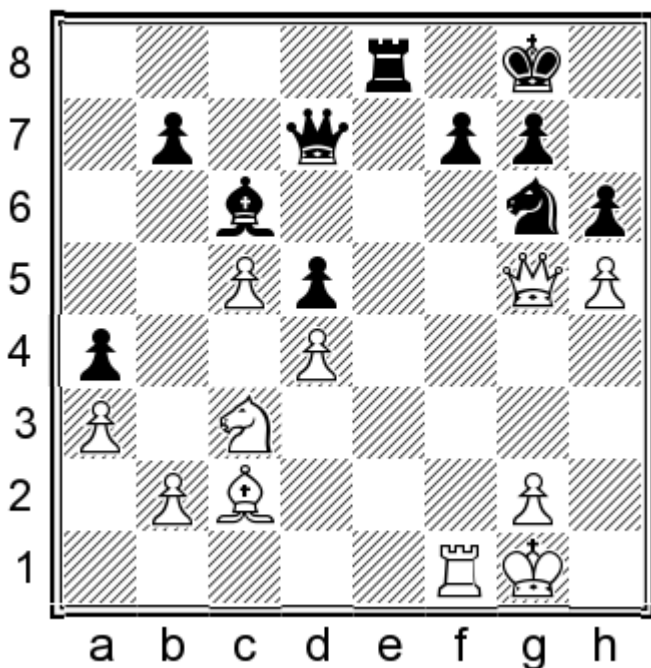
21...h6!

21...Nf8? 22.Rxe8 Qxe8 (22...Rxe8 23.h6 Ng6 (23...Ne6 24.Qf5 g6 25.Qf6 Qe7 26.Qxe7 Rxe7 27.Rd1 +- x a4, d5) 24.hxg7 Kxg7 25.Rf3 +-) 23.h6 Ng6 (23...Ne6 24.Qf5 g6 25.Qf6 Qf8 26.Rf3 +- ... Bg6) 24.hxg7 Kxg7 25.Qf6+ Kg8 26.Rf3 +-

22.Rxe8+

22.Qf5!?

22...Rxe8?



22...Qxe8 23.Qf5 Nf8²

23.Qf5! Nf8

23...Qxf5 24.Rxf5 Re1+ 25.Rf1 Rxf1+ 26.Kxf1 Nf4 27.Kf2! +-

24.Qxd7 Nxd7

24...Bxd7 25.Rd1!?! +-

25.Bxa4 Bxa4 26.Nxa4 +- Re2 27.b4

27.Rf3!?

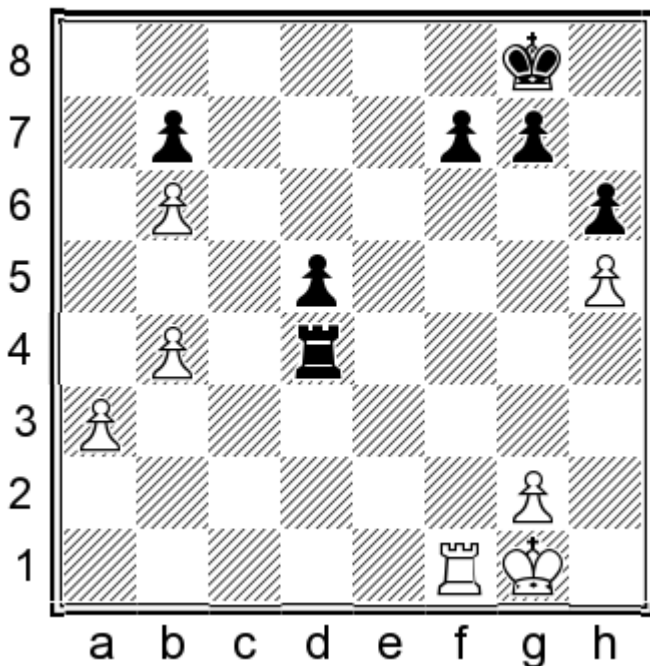
27...Rd2

27...Rc2 28.Rf5

28.Nb6

28.Nc3!? Rxd4 29.Nb5 Rd3 30.Re1; 28.Re1!?

28...Nxb6 29.cxb6 Rxd4



30.Rc1! Rd3

30...Rc4 31.Rxc4 dxc4 32.Kf2 Kf8 33.Ke3 Ke7 34.Kd4 Kd6 35.a4 Kc6
36.Kxc4 (36.a5?? Kb5 =) 36...Kxb6 37.g4

31.a4 Rb3 32.b5 Rb4 33.Rc8+ Kh7 34.a5??

34.Rc7 Rxa4 35.Rxb7 Rb4 36.Rxf7 Rxb5 37.b7 Kg8 38.Rd7

34...Rxb5 = 35.Ra8 g5 36.Ra7 Kg7 37.Kf2 Kf6 38.g4 Ke5 39.Rxb7 Rxa5
40.Rxf7 Rb5 41.b7 Ke4 42.Ke2 Rb2+ 43.Kd1 d4 44.Kc1 Rb6 45.Kc2 Ke3
46.Rd7 Ke4 47.Kd2 Rb2+ 48.Kc1 Rb6 49.Kc2 Ke3 50.Rc7 Kf4 51.Kd3
Kxg4 52.Kxd4 Kxh5 53.Kc5 Rb1 54.Rd7 g4 55.Kc6 g3 56.Rd5+ Kh4
57.Rb5 Rxb5 58.Kxb5 g2 59.b8=Q g1=Q 60.Qf4+ Kh5 61.Qf7+ Qg6
62.Qxg6+ Kxg6 63.Kc4 Kf5 64.Kd3 Kg4 65.Ke2 Kg3 66.Kf1 1/2-1/2

184. E46

Ivanchuk, Vassily (2678) - Kryvoruchko, Yuriy (2699)
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/184, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 O-O 5.Bd2 c5 6.a3

6.Nf3 - 29/547, E

6...Bxc3 7.Bxc3 cxd4 8.Qxd4 Nc6 9.Qh4 e5

9...d5

10.Rd1N

10.Bd3 d5 11.O-O-O!? (11.Ne2 Be6 =)

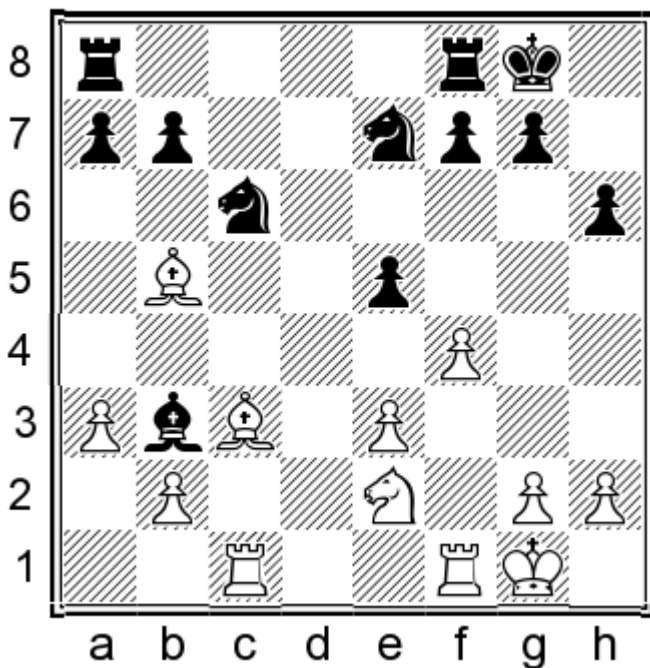
10...Qe7 11.Bd3

11.Nf3!?

11...h6 12.Ne2 d5 13.O-O

13.cxd5!? Nxd5 14.Qxe7 Ndx7 15.Bc4f

13...dxc4 14.Bxc4 Be6 15.Bb5 Bb3 16.Rc1 Nd5 17.Qxe7 Ndx7 18.f4



18...a6! 19.Bxc6 Nxc6 20.Bxe5 Rfe8

20...Nxe5 21.fxe5 Rfe8 22.Rc3 - 20...Rfe8

21.Nd4

21.Rc3 Nxe5 22.fxe5 (22.Rxb3 Nc4 =) 22...Be6 (22...Bd5 23.Rc5f) 23.Rc7 Rac8! 24.Rxb7 Rc2 25.Nf4 (25.Nd4 Rxc2+ 26.Kxc2 Bd5+ 27.Kg3 Bxb7 =) 25...Bf5©

21...Nxd4?!

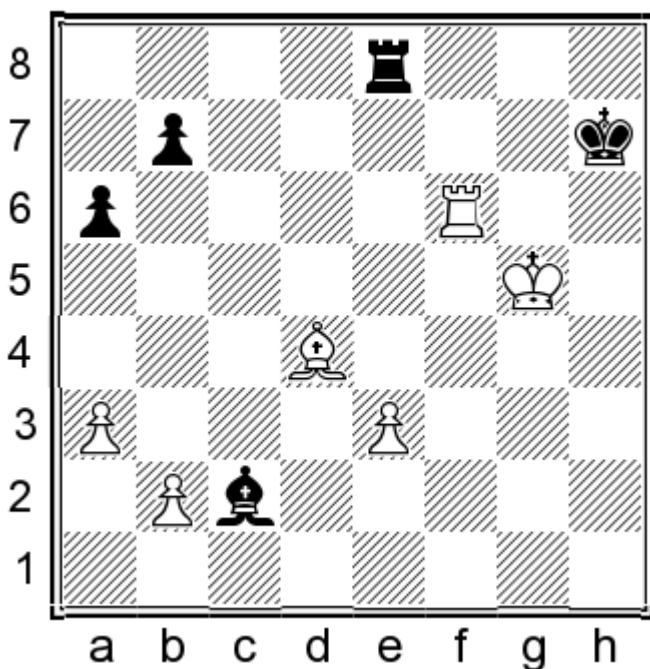
21...Nxe5 22.fxe5 (22.Nxb3 Nd3 =) 22...Bd5 =

22.Bxd4² Rac8 23.g4! f6 24.Kf2 Kf7

24...h5!?

25.Kg3 Rc2 26.Rxc2 Bxc2 27.f5 Rc8 28.h4 Re8 29.g5 hxg5 30.hxg5 fxg5

31.Kg4 g6TM 32.fxg6+ Kxg6 33.Rf6+ Kh7 34.Kxg5



34.Rf7+ Kh6 35.Rxb7 Bd1+ 36.Kg3 Re6©

34...Kg8! 35.Kh6

35.Rd6 Kf7 =

35...Rc8 36.Rf4 Rc6+ 37.Kg5 Rg6+ 38.Kh5 Rg2 = 39.e4 Re2 40.Rg4+ Kf8

41.e5 Re4 42.Rxe4 Bxe4 43.Kg5 Ke7 44.Kf4 1/2-1/2

185. E46

Maghsoodloo, Parham (2676) - Tabatabaei, Mohammad Amin (2629)

Iran (ch) 148/185, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 O-O 5.Bd2 c5 6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 Ne4

8.Ne2 b6 9.d5 d6 10.Qc2N

10.f3

10...Nxc3

10...exd5 11.cxd5 (11.Nf4!? Nxc3 12.bxc3©) 11...Bf5 ∞

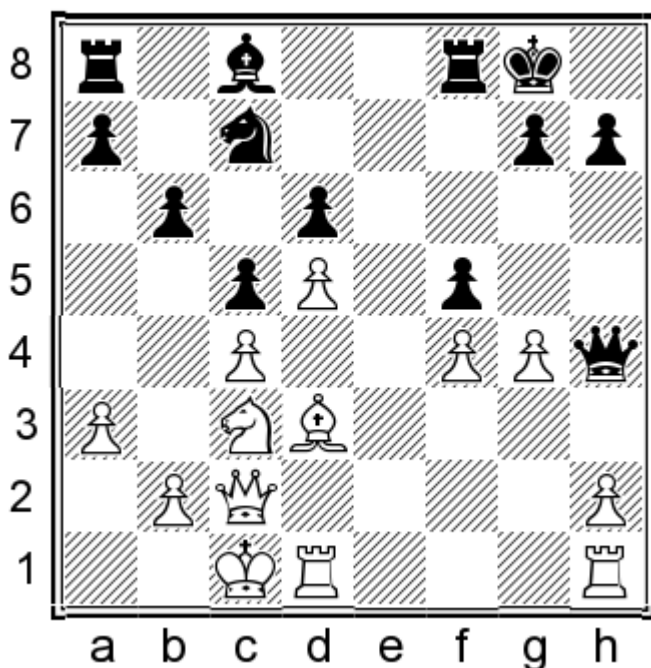
11.Nxc3 e5 12.O-O-O Na6 13.f4

13.Bd3

13...exf4 14.exf4 Nc7 15.Bd3 f5 16.g4

16.Kb1!?

16...Qh4!



17.h3!

17.g5 Qxf4+ 18.Qd2 Qh4 (18...Qxd2+ 19.Kxd2 Bd7 20.h4©) 19.Rdf1©

17...Bd7 18.Kb1 Qf6?!

18...Rae8 ∞

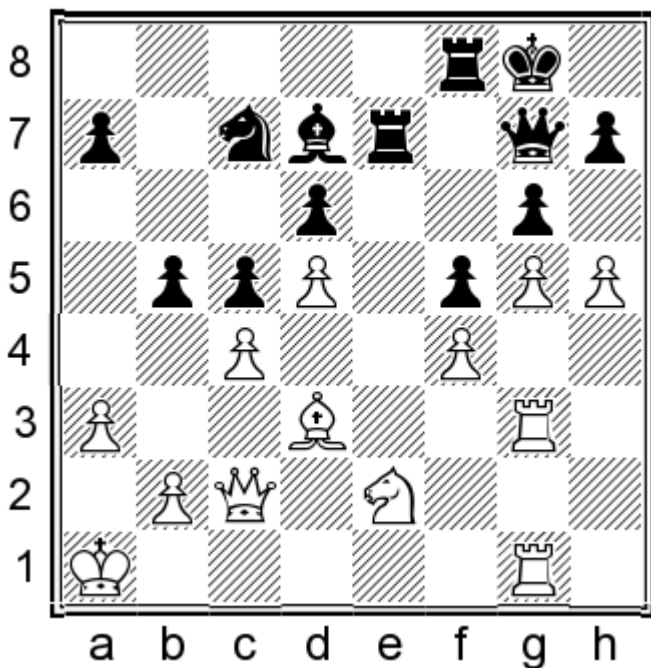
19.Rhg1

19.g5!? Qf7 20.h4 ±

19...Rae8 20.Rg3 Re7 21.Rdg1 Kh8 22.Ka1 g6

22...a6!?

23.g5! Qd4 24.Ne2 Qg7 25.h4 ± b5 26.h5 Kg8?



26...bxc4 27.Bxc4 gxf5 28.Rh1 Bb5 ±

27.hxg6! hxg6 28.Rh3 + - bxc4 29.Bxc4 Rfe8

29...Bb5 30.Bxb5 Nxb5 31.Rgh1 Rfe8 32.Qa4 Rb8 33.R1h2

30.Rgh1?!

30.Qd2

30...Nb5?!

30...Re3

31.Qd2 Nd4

31...a6 32.Nc1

32.Nxd4 cxd4 33.Ka2 Re3 34.Rh6 d3 35.Bxd3 Qd4 36.Bb5! 1-0

E50-E74

186. E55

Braun, Arik (2609) - Eljanov, Pavel (2672)

tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/186, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd2 O-O 5.Nf3 b6 6.e3 Bb7 7.Bd3 d5 8.O-O dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nbd7 10.Qe2 c5 11.dxc5

11.Rfd1 - 128/185

11...Bxc5 12.Rfd1

12.Ba6 Qc8 13.Bxb7 Qxb7 =

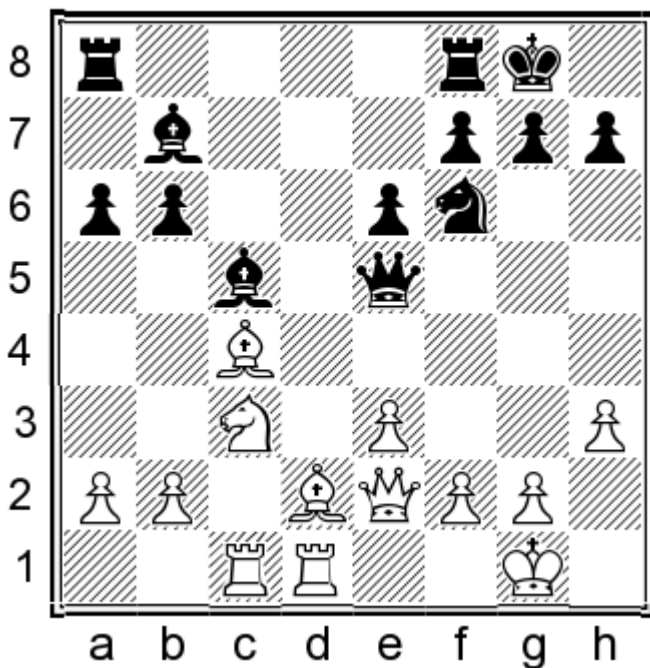
12...a6 13.Rac1N

13.a4; 13.a3

13...Qb8 14.h3 Ne5?

14...b5 15.Bb3 (15.Bd3 Ne5 16.Nxe5 Qxe5 =) 15...Rd8 (15...Ne5 16.Nxe5 Qxe5 17.Nxb5 axb5 18.Qxb5 Bxg2 (18...Qe4 19.f3 Bxe3+ 20.Kh1 Qf4 21.Bxe3 Qxe3 22.Qxb7 Nh5 23.Qb4²) 19.Kxg2 Ne4 (19...Qg5+ 20.Kh1 Qh4 21.Qf1 Ne4 22.Kg1 Nxd2 23.Rxd2²) 20.Qe2 (20.Be1 Qg5+ 21.Kh1 Qf5 22.Kg1 (22.Qf1?? Ng3+-+; 22.Kg2?? Ng5-+) 22...Qg5+=) 20...Qxb2 21.Rc2 Qe5 =) 16.Be1 Qa7 =

15.Nxe5 Qxe5



16.Na4! Bd6

16...Ne4 17.Nxc5 Nxc5 18.Bc3 Qg5 19.Qg4 ±

17.f4™ Qf5 18.Nxb6 Rab8 19.Be1

19.Bc3

19...Bc5

¹19...Bxg2 20.Qxg2 Rxb6 21.Bd3 Qh5 22.Bc3 ±

20.Bd3! Be4 21.Na4?!

21.Bxe4 Qxe4 22.Rxc5 Rxb6 23.Rd4 + -

21...Ba7 22.Kh2?!

22.Bxa6? Nd5f; 22.Rc7!

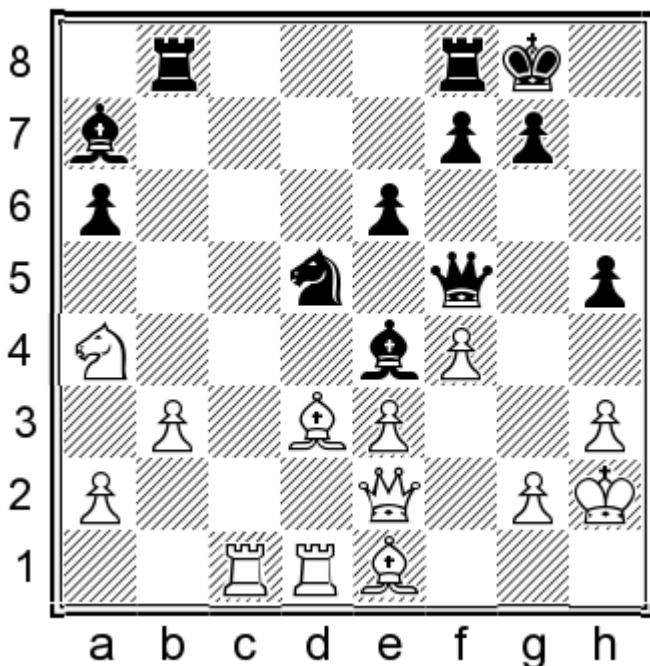
22...h5

¹22...Bxd3 23.Rxd3 e5

23.b3?!

23.Bxa6 Rfd8 24.Nc3 Rxd1 25.Rxd1 Nd5 ±; 23.Rc7 Ra8 24.Nc3 ±

23...Nd5



¹23...Rbd8

24.Bf2?

24.Rc4! Bxd3 25.Rxd3 ±

24...Nxf4 25.exf4 Bxd3 26.Qxd3 Bxf2 = 27.Qxf5 exf5 28.g3

28.Rc2!?

**28...h4 29.gxh4 Rfe8 30.Kg2 Bxh4 31.Kf3 Re7 32.Nb2 Rbe8 33.Nc4 Re2
34.Rd2 Rxd2 35.Nxd2 Rd8 36.Ke2 Re8+ 37.Kf3 Rd8 38.Ke2 Re8+ 39.Kf3
1/2-1/2**

187. E60

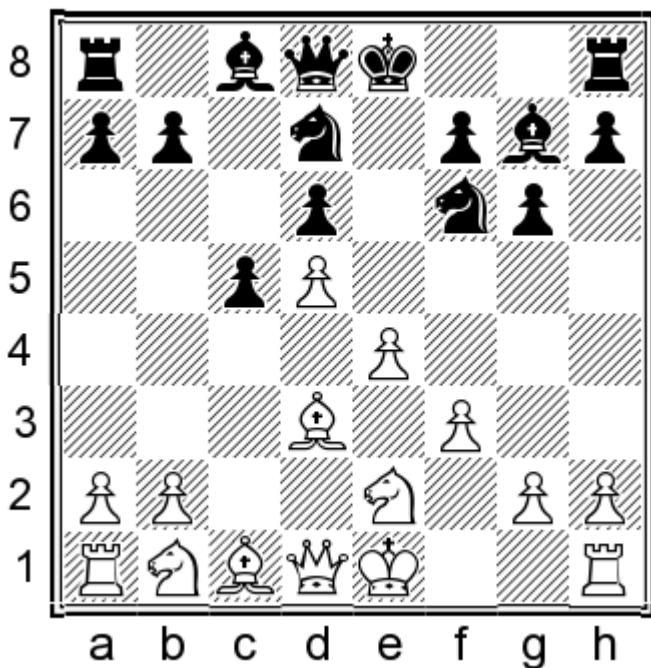
Ding, Liren (2805) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2774)

Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/187, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 e6 4.e4 c5 5.d5 d6 6.Bd3!?

6.Nc3 exd5 7.cxd5 Bg7 8.Bd3 O-O 9.Nge2 - 35/117, A 65

6...Bg7 7.Ne2 exd5 8.cxd5 Nbd7



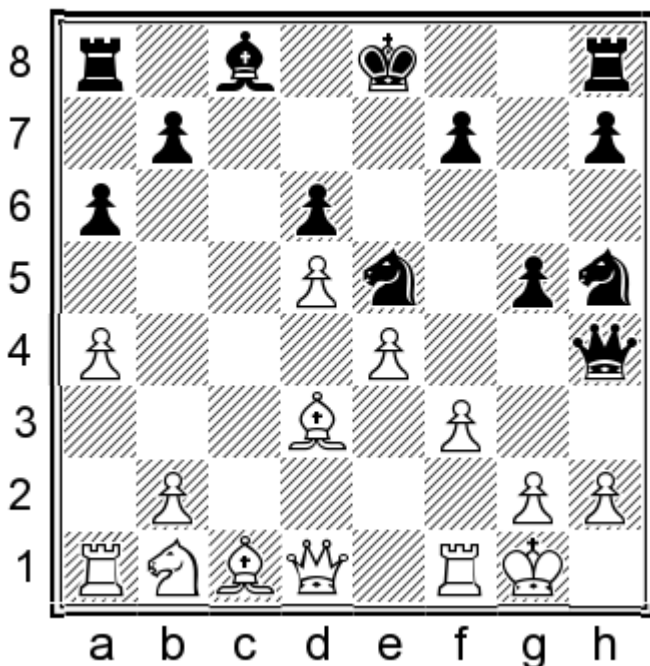
9.Nec3!?N

9.Nbc3 O-O - A 65

9.a4 O-O 10.O-O Ne5 11.Bc2 a6 12.Nd2 Re8 13.b3 Rb8 14.Bb2 Nh5 15.Ra2 b5 16.axb5 axb5 17.h3 g5 =

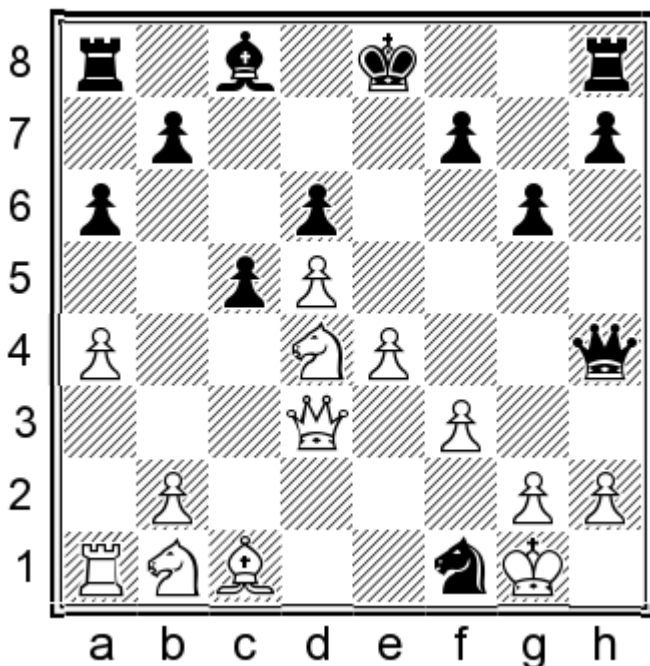
9...a6 10.a4 Nh5! 11.O-O Bd4+ 12.Kh1 Ne5 13.Ne2! Qh4 14.Nxd4 Nxd3?

14...cxd4 15.Kg1 g5! 16.Ra3! (16.Be2 d3! (16...g4 17.fxg4 Bxg4 18.Bxg4 Nxc4 19.h3 Rg8 20.hxc4! Ng3 21.g5! Qh1+ 22.Kf2 Qh4 23.Ra3! Nxf1+ 24.Kxf1 Qh1+ 25.Ke2 Qxc2+ 26.Kd3 Qf2 27.Kc4! Rc8+ 28.Kb3 ±) 17.Bxd3



17...g4! (17...Rg8 18.Be2 g4 19.fxg4 (19.f4?? g3- +) 19...Bxg4© 20.Qe1 (20.Ra3 Bxe2 21.Qxe2 Rc8© 22.Rc3 Rxc3 23.Nxc3 Rg3! (23...Ng4 24.h3 Ne5 25.Rf5 Ng3 26.Rxe5+ dxe5 27.Qc4∞) 24.Qf2 (24.hxg3?? Nxg3- + 25.Qd2 Ng4) 24...Nf3+ 25.Qxf3 Rxf3 26.Rxf3∞) 20...Nf3+ 21.Bxf3 Bxf3 22.Qxh4 Rxg2+ 23.Kh1 Rf2+=) 18.f4 Nxd3! (18...Nf3+?? 19.Rxf3 gxf3 20.Qxf3 Bg4 21.Qf2+ -) 19.Qxd3 g3 20.h3 Bxh3 21.gxh3 g2 22.Rf2 (22.Rd1 Rg8 23.Ra3 Ng3 24.Rd2! Qxf4 25.Rd1 Qh4 26.Rd2) 22...Rg8 23.Rxg2 Kd7 24.Qf1 Ng3 (24...Rxg2+ 25.Kxg2 Rg8+ 26.Kh2 Qg3+ 27.Kh1 Qg6 28.Kh2=)) 16...g4 17.f4 Nf3+ 18.Rxf3 gxf3 19.Qxf3 Bg4 20.Qf2 Qxf2+ 21.Kxf2 Rc8 22.Bd2 Bd1∞

15.Qxd3 Ng3+ 16.Kg1 Nxf1



17.Nc2! Nxh2

17...Qxh2+ 18.Kxf1 Qh1+ 19.Kf2 Qxc1 20.Qc3! ... Nd2+-

18.Qe3 O-O

18...g5 19.Nd2 (19.e5!?) 19...O-O 20.Nc4 +-

19.Qg5 +- Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 Qh3 21.Bf4 Qxf3 22.Nd2 f6

22...Qd3 23.Qf6

23.Qxg6+ hxg6 24.Nxf3 Bg4 25.Nd2 Be2 26.Kf2 Bd3 27.Ne1 c4 28.Bxd6 Rfe8 29.Nxd3 cxd3 30.Bc7 Kf7 31.Ra3 Rac8 32.d6 Ke6 33.Rxd3 Kd7 34.Nc4 Rxc7 35.Nb6+ 1-0

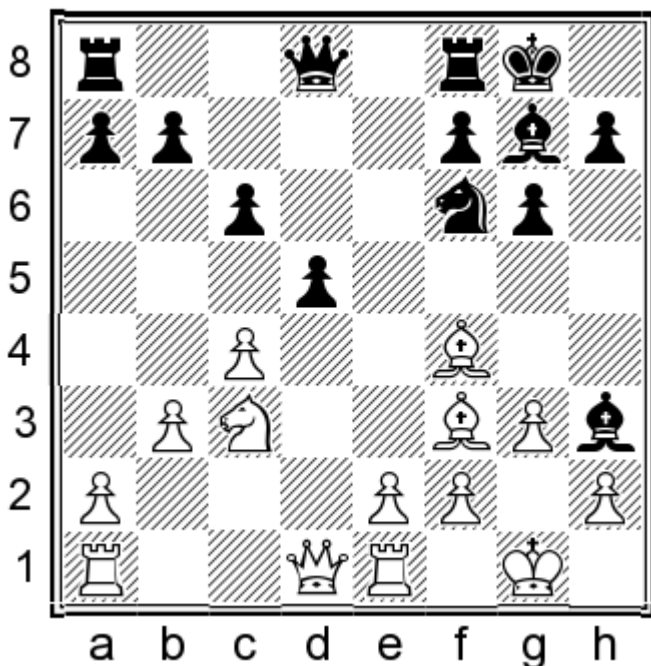
188. E63

Sonis, Francesco (2491) - Mihok, Oliver (2547)
tornelo.com (Internet) 148/188, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 O-O 5.Nc3 d6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.O-O e5 8.dxe5 Nxe5 9.b3 Nxf3+ 10.Bxf3 c6

10...Bh3 - 132/190

11.Bf4 Bh3 12.Re1 d5?!



13.cxd5! Nxd5

13...cxd5 14.Be5 Re8 15.Bd4²

14.Nxd5 cxd5

14...Bxa1 15.Qxa1 cxd5 16.Bh6 d4 17.Bxf8 Kxf8 18.Bxb7 +- -

15.Rc1 ± Be6 16.Qd2 Re8N

16...Rc8 17.Rxc8 (17.Bh6?! Bxh6 18.Qxh6 Qa5 19.a4 d4 ∞) 17...Qxc8
18.Rc1 Qd8 19.h4 ±

17.h4 Rc8 18.Rxc8 Qxc8 19.Rc1 Qd8 20.Rc7 ± Re7 21.Rxe7 Qxe7

22.Bxd5 Bxd5 23.Qxd5 Qxe2 24.Qd8+

24.Qxb7! Qxa2 25.Qa8+ Bf8 26.Bd6 Qa1+ 27.Kg2 Qg7 28.b4 f5 29.b5 +- -

24...Bf8 25.Bh6 Qe1+ 26.Kg2 Qe4+ 27.Kh2 Qe7 28.Qa8 a6

28...b6 29.Bxf8 Qxf8 30.Qxa7 Qc5 31.Qb8+ Kg7 32.Qf4 ±

29.a4!

29.Bxf8 Qxf8 30.Qxb7 Qa3 31.Qb8+ Kg7 32.Qe5+ Kg8 33.Qe2 ±

29...a5 30.Bxf8 Qxf8 31.Qxa5 Qe8 32.Qb6 Qe4 33.a5 f5 34.b4 +- - Qd5

34...f4 35.Qd8+ Kf7 36.Qc7+ Ke6 37.Qxf4 +- -

35.Qc5 Qf7 36.Kg1 f4 37.Qc8+ Kg7 38.Qc3+ Kg8 39.Qf3 fxg3 40.Qxf7+

Kxf7 41.b5 gxf2+ 42.Kxf2 Ke6 43.a6 1-0

189. E63

Pantsulaia, Levan (2553) - Lortkipanidze, Nodar (2416)

Georgia (ch) 148/189, 2021

1.g3 g6 2.Bg2 Bg7 3.c4 d6 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.d4 O-O 7.O-O e5 8.dxe5
Nxe5 9.Nxe5 dxe5 10.Qa4

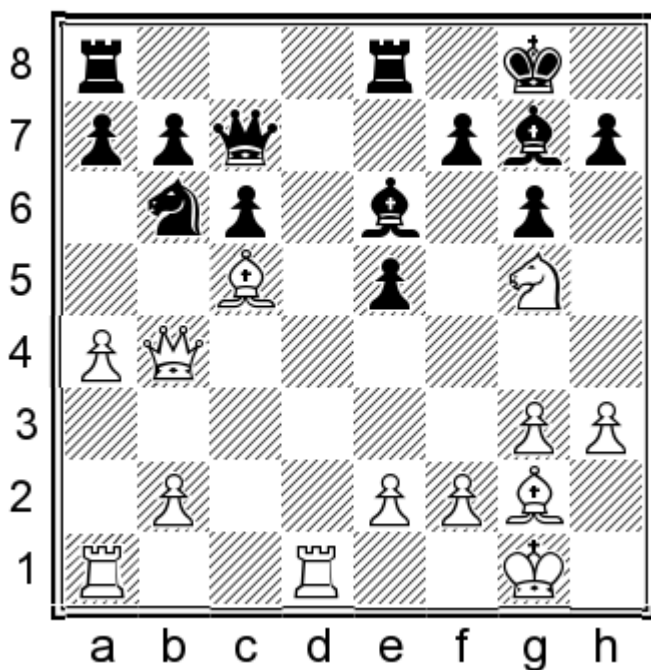
10.Qxd8 - 134/(187)

10...c6 11.Be3 Qc7 12.Rfd1

12.Bc5 Re8 (12...Rd8) 13.Rfd1 Bf5 14.e4 (14.Bd6 Qc8 15.e4 Bh3 ∞; 14.b4
e4 ∞) 14...Bg4 15.Rd2 Bf8 =

12...Be6 13.h3 Nd7 14.b3N

14.Ne4 Nb6 15.Qb4 Nxc4 16.Bc5 Rfe8 17.Ng5 Nb6 18.a4



18...e4! 19.Bxe4 Nd5 20.Nxe6 Rxe6 21.Bxd5 cxd5 =

14...f5 15.Rac1 f4

15...h6 16.Qa3 Rfe8 17.Na4 (17.Qd6 Qxd6 18.Rxd6 Bf8 19.Rd2 g5³) 17...Bf8
18.Qb2 g5³

16.Bd2 Qb6?!

16...fxg3 17.fxg3 Nf6 18.Be3 Nh5 19.Ne4 Bf5 20.Kh2 Nf4! 21.c5 Nxg2
22.Kxg2 Be6∞

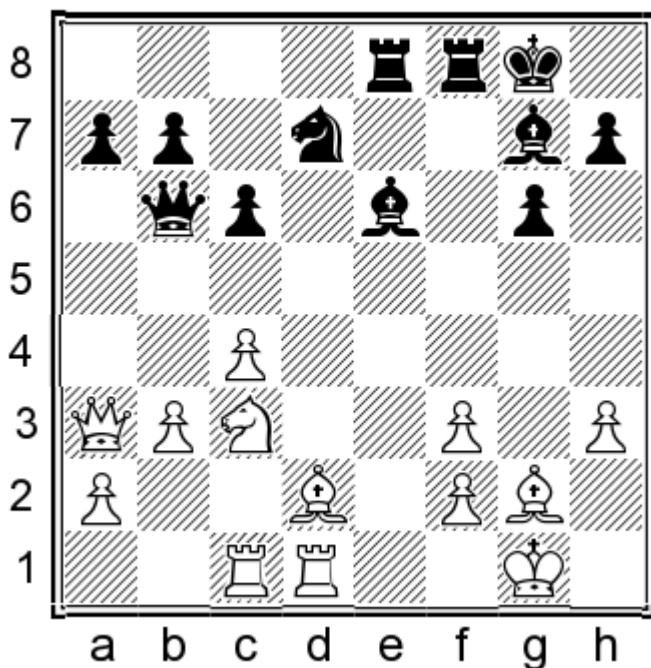
17.gxf4?!

17.g4 h5 18.Ne4 a5 (18...hxg4? 19.Ba5 Qa6 20.hxg4 Bxg4 21.Rxd7! Bxd7
22.Nc5 +-) 19.c5 Qd8 20.g5 Bd5 21.h4²

17...exf4 18.Qa3 f3?

18...Rae8 19.Ne4 Qd8 20.Qa5 Qh4 21.Qg5 Qxg5 22.Nxg5 Bf5³

19.exf3 Rae8?!



19...Bf5 20.Be3 Qc7 21.Qd6 ±

**20.Ne4! Qc7 21.Qd6 Qc8 22.Qg3 Be5 23.Qh4 Rf5 24.f4 +- Rh5 25.Qg3
Bc7 26.Bc3 Rf8 27.Nd6 Qb8 28.Qe3 1-0**

190. * E63

Oparin, Grigoriy (2652) - Shevchenko, Kirill (2599)

torneo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/190, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 O-O 5.Bg2 d6 6.O-O Nc6 7.Nc3 e5 8.dxe5
dxe5 9.Bg5 h6 10.Qxd8 Rxd8 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Nd5 Kg7 13.Nxc7 Rb8
14.Nd5 e4 15.Nd2 e3 16.Nxf6

16.fxe3 - 146/190

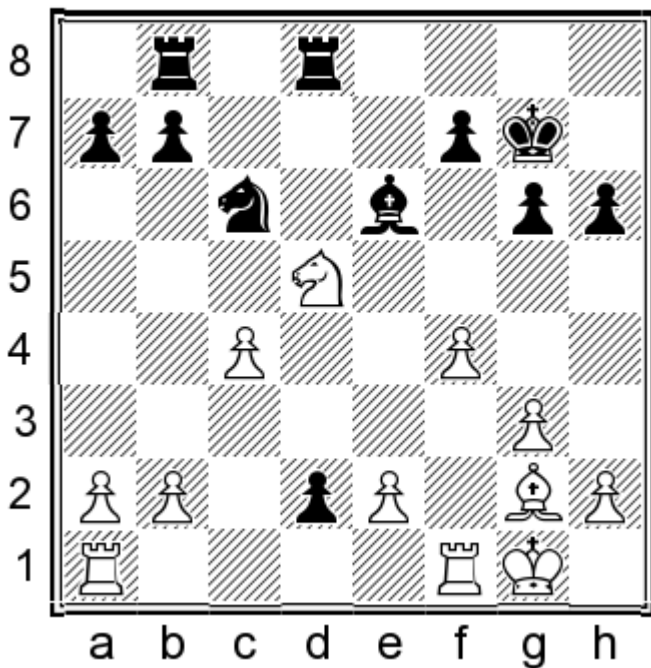
16...exd2N

16...Rxd2 - 148/ (190) 17.fxe3 Rxb2 18.Rf2 (18.Ne8+ Kg8 19.Rab1 Rxb1 20.Rxb1 Bf5! 21.Nf6+ (21.e4 Be6 =) 21...Kg7 22.Rb5 a6 23.Nh5+ (23.Rb6 Na5 24.Bd5 Rc8 =) 23...Kf8 24.Rb6 Ne5 25.Nf4 g5 (25...Nxc4 26.Rxb7 Rxb7 27.Bxb7 a5 =) 26.Nd3 (26.Rf6 Bc8 27.Nh5 b5 ∞) 26...Nxc4 27.Rxb7 Rxb7 28.Bxb7 a5 29.e4 Be6 =) 18...Be6 19.Bd5 Ne5 ∞ Frolyanov,D (2542)-Damjanovic,V (2393) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 148/(190) 2021

17.Nd5 Bg4 18.f3

18.Rfd1 Bxe2 19.Rxd2 Bxc4 20.b3 Bxd5 21.Rxd5 Nb4 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Bxb7 Rd2 24.a3 Nd3 25.Rf1 Nc5 26.Bg2 Nxb3 =

18...Be6 19.f4?!



19.e4 Na5 20.b3 (20.Rfd1 Nxc4 21.b3 Bxd5 22.exd5 Ne3 23.Rxd2 Rxd5 24.Rxd5 Nxd5 =) 20...b5! 21.cxb5 Bxd5 22.exd5 Rxd5 23.f4 Rd6 24.Rfd1 Rxb5 25.Kf2 Rb8 26.Rab1 Nc4 27.Bf3 Na3 28.Rb2 Rbd8 29.Ke2 Re6+ 30.Kf2 Red6 =

19...Na5! 20.Rfd1?!

20.b3 b5 21.Rad1 bxc4 22.Rxd2 cxb3 23.axb3 Nxb3 24.Rdd1 a5³

20...Nxc4 21.e4

21.b3 Bxd5 22.Bxd5 Ne3 23.Bc4 Nxd1 24.Rxd1 Rbc8 25.Kf2 f5 26.Ke3 Rd7
27.Bd3 Rc1- +

**21...Bg4 22.b3 Bxd1 23.Rxd1 Nd6 24.Rxd2 Rbc8 25.Kf2 Nb5 26.Ke3 Rc1
27.a4**

27.e5 Nc7- +

27...Nc7

27...Nc3 28.Rd3 Nxd5+ 29.exd5 Rc2 30.Bf3 Rxh2- +

28.Kd4

28.Nxc7 Rxd2 29.Kxd2 Rxc7- +

**28...Ne6+ 29.Ke3 b6 30.Bh3 Nc5- + 31.e5 Nxb3 32.Rd3 Nc5 33.Rd4 Re1+
34.Kf2 Re4**

34...Ra1

**35.Rd1 Rxa4 36.Bg2 Ra2+ 37.Kf1 Na4 38.g4 b5 39.f5 Nb6 40.f6+ Kf8
41.Bf3 Ra3 42.Bg2 Nxd5 43.Bxd5 Re3 0-1**

191. E70

Lagarde, Maxime (2640) - Guseinov, Gadir (2665)
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/191, 2021

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2 O-O 6.Ng3 c6 7.Be2 Nbd7 8.h4
8.Bg5 - 60/544**

8...e5 9.d5 cxd5 10.cxd5 h5 11.Bg5 a6 12.Bxh5 gxh5 13.Nxh5 Qb6

13...Qe8 14.Nxg7 Kxg7 15.g4 (15.Qf3 Nh7³) 15...Nc5 16.f3 Nh7 17.Be3
Kh8 ∞

14.Nxg7 Kxg7

14...Qxb2? 15.Rh3! Ng4 16.Bd2 Ndf6 17.Nf5 Bxf5 18.exf5 Qb6 19.Qe2 Kh7
20.f3 Nh6 21.g4 ±

15.Rh3N

15.Qd2 Rg8 16.O-O-O Nc5 17.f3 Bd7 18.g4 Rac8³

15...Rg8 16.Qf3?!

16.Rg3 Kf8 17.Qf3 Qxb2 (17...Ke8 18.O-O-O Nh7 19.Be3 Rxg3 20.Qxg3
Qc7 ∞) 18.Rb1 Qc2 19.Rc1 Qb2 =

16...Kf8 17.Rg3 Qxb2 18.Rb1 Qc2 19.Rc1 Qb2 20.Rb1 Qc2 21.Rc1 Qb2

22.Kd1?

22.Rb1 =

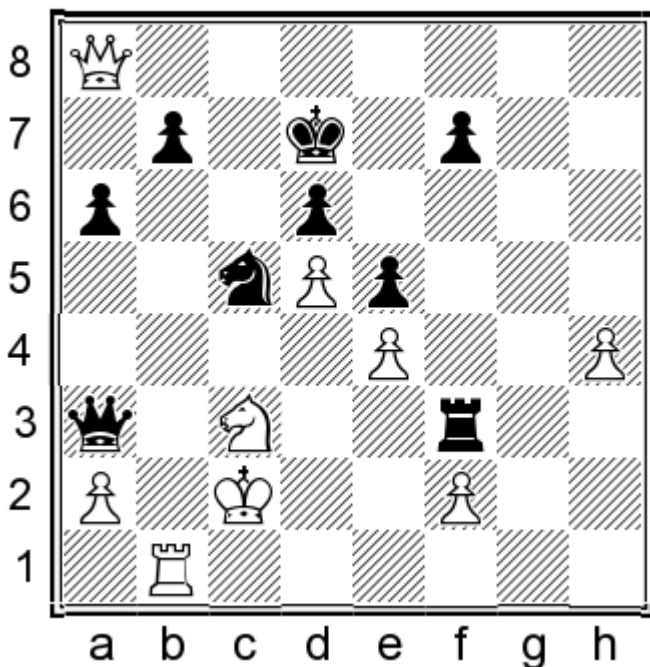
22...Ke7 23.Qf5 Rg6 24.Rb1 Qa3 25.Rf3 Nc5

25...Ke8! 26.Rb3 (26.h5 Nc5- +) 26...Qc5 27.h5 Qd4+ 28.Ke1 Nc5- +

26.Bxf6+ Ke8 27.Qh5 Bg4 28.Qh8+ Kd7 29.Qxa8 Bxf3+ 30.gxf3 Rxf6
31.Kc2

31.Rxb7+ Nxb7 32.Qxb7+ Kd8 33.Qb6+ Ke7 34.Kd2 Qc5μ

31...Rxf3?



31...Qa5 32.Rxb7+ Nxb7 33.Qxb7+ Qc7 34.Qxa6 Rxf3μ

32.Rxb7+! Nxb7 33.Qxb7+ Ke8 34.Qc8+ Ke7 35.Qc7+ Ke8 36.Qc8+ Ke7
37.Qc7+ Ke8 38.Qc8+ 1/2-1/2

192. E71

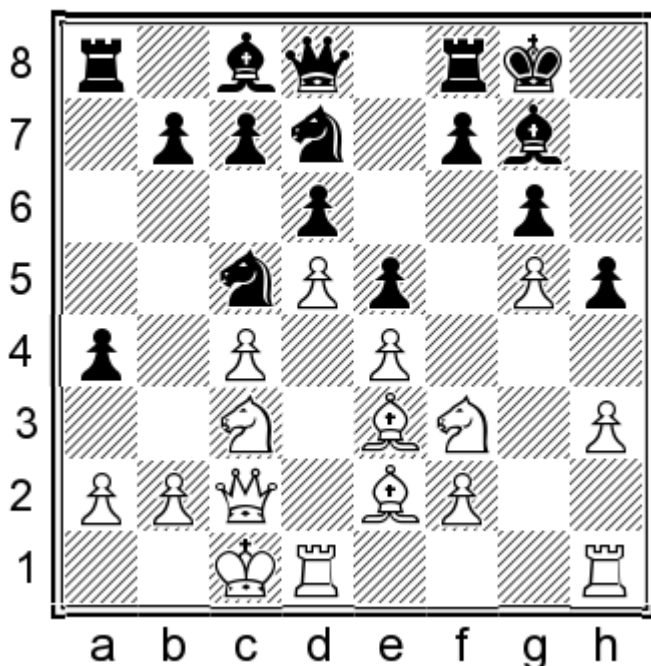
Suleymenov, Alisher (2440) - Fedorov, Alexei (2529)

Chelyabinsk 148/192, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 Nbd7 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 Nc5 8.Qc2 a5
9.g4

9.Nge2 - 44/(720)

9...h5 10.g5 Nfd7 11.O-O-O O-O 12.Nf3 a4 13.Be2N



13.Nd2; 13.Kb1

13...c6! 14.Kb1

14.dxc6 bxc6 15.Rxd6 Qc7 16.Rhd1 Re8 17.R6d2 Bf8 18.Bf1 Nb6©

14...Qa5 15.Nh4 Nb6 16.Rhg1

16.dxc6!? bxc6 17.Rxd6 Ne6 18.Nf3 Rb8 19.Rhd1 c5 20.Nb5 Qa8©

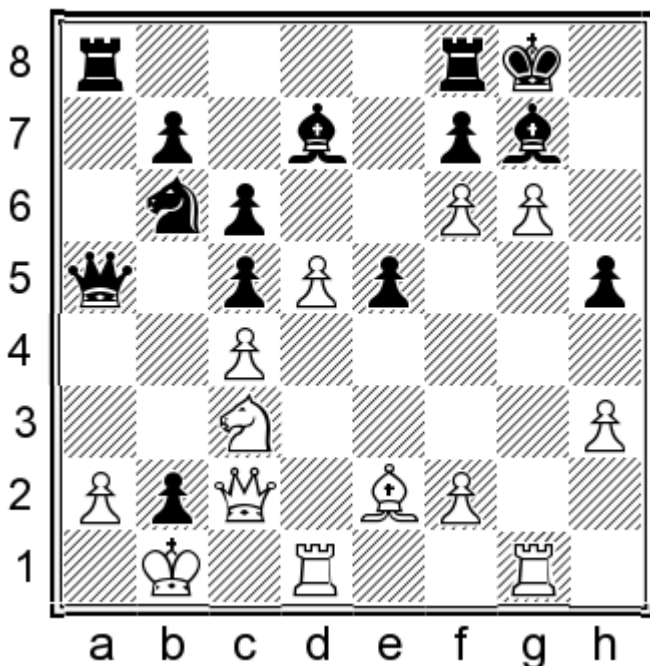
16...Bd7 17.Nf5!? gxf5 18.exf5 a3

18...cxd5!? 19.f6 a3 20.g6 (20.Bxc5 Qxc5 21.Nxd5 axb2 22.fxg7 Kxg7³)
 20...Bxf6 21.Bxh5 Kh8 22.gxf7 Ne4! 23.Nxe4 Bf5 24.Bg6! axb2 25.Qxb2
 (25.Qb3 dxc4 26.Bxb6 cxb3 27.Bxa5 bxa2+ 28.Kxb2 Bxe4 29.Bxe4 Rxa5
 30.Rxd6 Rxf7 =) 25...Nxc4 26.Qb3 Na3+ 27.Kb2 Nc4+ =

19.Bxc5 dxc5!

19...Qxc5?! 20.Ne4 Qb4 21.b3 Rfd8 22.Nf6+ Kh8 23.Bxh5 ±

20.f6 axb2! 21.g6



21.fxg7 Kxg7 22.dxc6 Bxc6 23.Qf5 Na4! (23...Qxc3 24.Qf6+ Kg8 25.Bd3 Nd7 26.Qh6 e4 27.g6 Qh8! 28.Qxh8+ Kxh8 29.g7+ Kg8 30.gxf8=Q+ Kxf8 31.Be2²) 24.Nxa4 Qxa4 25.Qxe5+ Kg8 26.Qxb2 Be4+ 27.Ka1 Ra6©

21...Na4! 22.Nxa4 Qxa4 23.Qxa4 Rxa4 24.fxg7

24.gxf7+ Rxf7 25.fxg7 Rxg7 26.Kxb2 h4 27.dxc6 Bxc6 28.Rd8+ Kf7 29.Bh5+ Ke7 30.Rxg7+ Kxd8=

24...Bf5+ 25.Bd3

25.Kxb2 Kxg7 26.gxf7+ Kxf7 27.Rg3 Kf6=

25...Bxd3+ 26.Rxd3 Kxg7 27.gxf7+ Kxf7 28.Rb3 cxd5 29.Rxb7+

29.cxd5 Rd4 30.Rxb7+ Kf6 31.Rxb2 Rxd5=

29...Ke6 30.Rb6+ Kf5 31.cxd5 Rd4 1/2-1/2

193. !N E71

Matviishen, Viktor (2512) - Belous, Vladimir (2520)

USA (Int.-rapid) 148/193, 2021

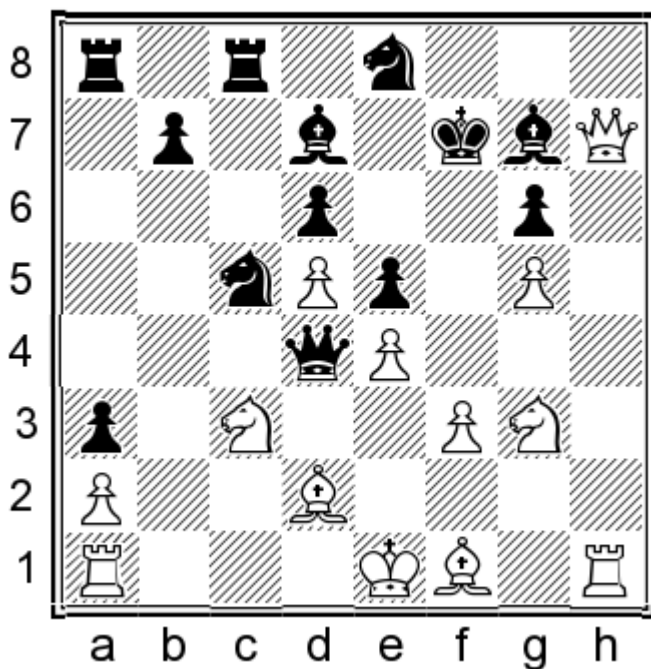
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 O-O 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 Nbd7 8.g4 Nc5 9.f3 a5

9...c6 - 145/191

10.Nge2 c6 11.Qd2 Bd7 12.Ng3 a4 13.h4 cxd5 14.cxd5 Qa5 15.h5 Rfc8
16.hxg6 fxg6

16...hxg6?! 17.Bh6 Bh8 18.Nf5! ±

17.g5 Ne8 18.Qh2 a3 19.b4 Qxb4 20.Qxh7+ Kf7 21.Bd2 Qd4



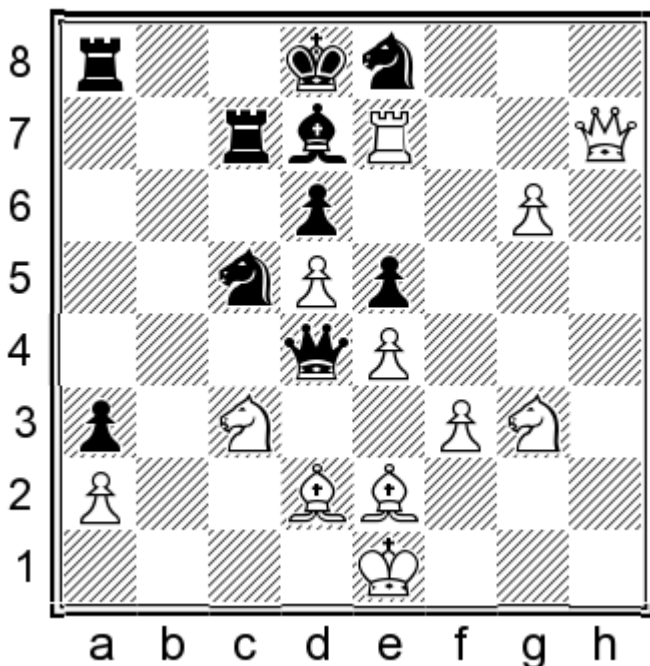
22.Rb1!N

22.Rh6 Qg1! (22...Nd3+ 23.Bxd3 Qxd3 24.Qxg6+ Ke7 25.Nf5+ +-)

23.Qxg6+ Kf8- +

22...Rc7 23.Rh6?

23.Be2!? b5! 24.Rh6 b4 25.Rxb4! Qxb4 26.Rxg6 Ke7 27.Rxg7+ Kd8 28.Re7
Qd4 29.g6



29...Nb3! 30.g7 Qxd2+ 31.Kf2 Kxe7 32.g8=Q+ Kd8 33.Nf5 Qxc3 34.Qe7+ Kc8 35.Nxd6+ Kb8 36.Nxe8 Qd4+ 37.Kg2 Bh3+ 38.Kxh3 Rxe7 39.Nd6+ Ka7 40.Nb5+ Kb7 41.Nd6+ Ka7 42.Nb5+=

23...Qg1! 24.Qxg6+ Kf8- + 25.Nh1

25.Ke2 Qxg3 26.Be1 Qf4 27.Bd2 Qf7 (27...Nd3 28.Kxd3 (28.Bh3 Nc1+! 29.Rxc1 Qh2+ 30.Kd3 Bxh3- +) 28...Qxf3+ 29.Kc2 Ba4+- +) 28.Qxf7+ Kxf7- +

25...Nd3+ 26.Ke2 Rxc3 27.Rh7 Nf4+ 28.Bxf4 exf4 0-1

194. * E73

Abasov, Nijat (2665) - Iskandarov, Misratdin (2535)

Azerbaijan (ch) 148/194, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 O-O 6.h4 c5 7.d5 e6

7...b5 - 100/443

8.Bg5 h6 9.Bf4 exd5 10.exd5 Re8 11.Qd2N

11.Nf3 - 148/ (194) 11...Bg4 12.Kf1 Na6 (12...Ne4! 13.Nxe4 Rxe4 14.Qd2 Nd7 15.Bxd6 (15.Bxh6? Bxf3 16.Bxf3 Rxh4- +; 15.Bd3 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Rd4μ) 15...Nb6 16.Bxc5 Nxc4 17.Bxc4 Rxc4μ) 13.Qd2 h5 14.Re1 Nc7 15.Ng5 a6 (15...Bxe2+ 16.Rxe2 Rxe2 17.Qxe2 b5! ∞) 16.Bxg4 Rxe1+ 17.Qxe1 Nxg4

18.Nce4² Kukhmazov,A (2451)-Budrewicz,K (2289) chess.com (Int.-blitz)
148/(194) 2021

11...h5 12.Nh3 Bxh3! 13.Rxh3 Ne4 14.Nxe4 Rxe4 15.Kf1 Nd7! 16.Re1

16.Bxd6 Qf6 17.Bh2 Rae8 18.Bd3 Rxh4³

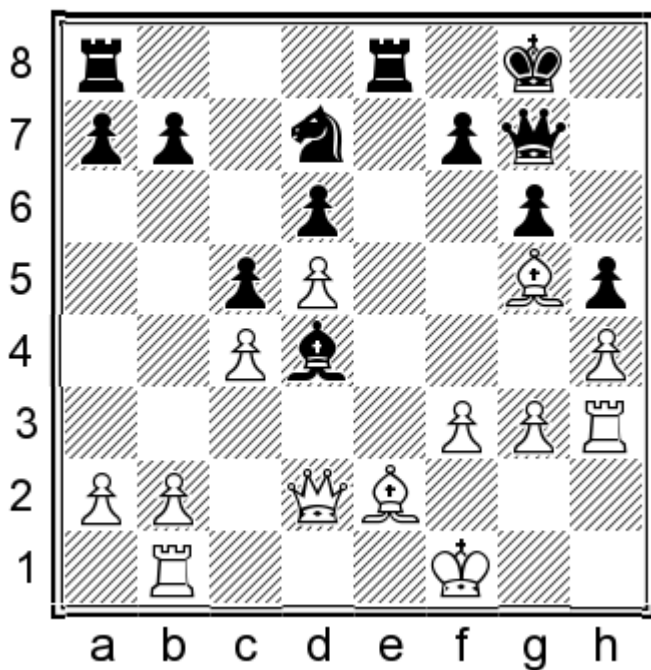
16...Bd4

16...Ne5 17.Bg5 Bf6 18.b3 Bxg5 19.Qxg5 a5³

17.f3?!

17.Bg5 Bf6 18.b3 Qf8 19.Bd1 Rae8 20.Rhe3 Rxe3 21.Rxe3 Bxg5 22.hxg5
a6 ∞

17...Re8 18.g3 Qf6 19.Bg5 Qg7 20.Rb1



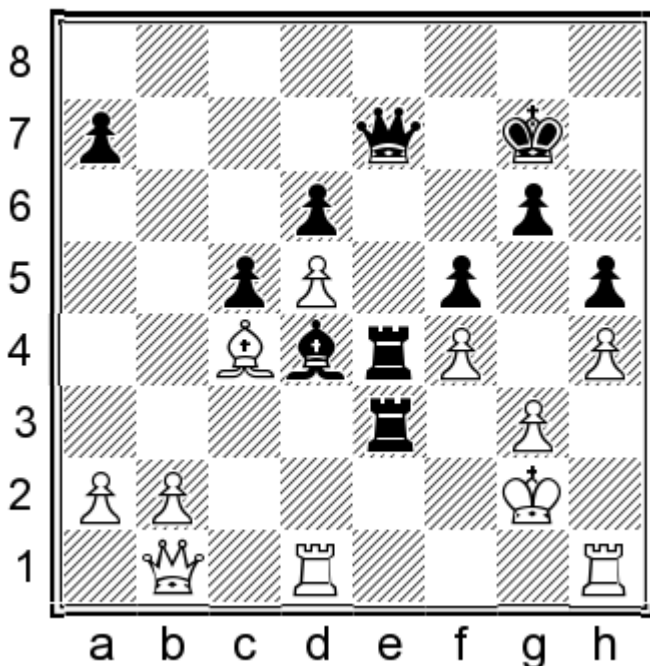
20...b5! 21.Rh2

21.cxb5 Qe5μ; 21.Kg2 Qe5 22.Bf1 bxc4 23.Bxc4 Nb6 24.Bb5 Rec8 25.Bc6
Rab8 ±

**21...bxc4 22.Bxc4 Ne5 23.Be2 f6! 24.Bf4 Qf7 25.Qc2 Kg7 26.Bxe5 Rxe5
27.Bc4 Rae8 28.Kg2 f5 29.f4 Re3 30.Rhh1**

30.Rf1 Qe7 31.b3 Rc3 32.Qd1 Qf7μ

30...R8e4 31.Rbd1 Qe7-+ 32.Qb1



32.Rd2 g5! 33.Bd3 (33.fxc5 Rxc3+ 34.Kxc3 Rg4+ 35.Kh3 Qe3+ 36.Kh2 Qg3#; 33.hxc5 Rxc3+! 34.Kxc3 Rxf4 35.Kxf4 Qe3+ 36.Kxf5 Qe5#) 33...Rxc3+ 34.Kxc3 gxf4+ 35.Kf3 Re3+ 36.Kg2 f3+ 37.Kh3 f2+ 38.Kg2 f1=Q + 39.Kxf1 Re1+ 40.Kg2 Rxh1 41.Kxh1 Qe1+ 42.Kh2 Qg1+ 43.Kh3 Qh1+ 44.Kg3 f4+! 45.Kxf4 Qxh4+ 46.Kf5 Qg4#

32...Rxc3+! 33.Kxc3 Re3+ 34.Kg2 Re2+ 35.Bxe2 Qxe2+ 36.Kh3 Qg4+ 37.Kh2 Qxf4+ 0-1

195. E73

Gunina, Valentina (2421) - Lagno, Kateryna (2546)

Gibraltar 148/195, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 O-O 6.Be3 Nc6 7.d5 Ne5 8.Nf3
8.h3 - 146/195

8...Nf4 9.Bd2 e6 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.f4 Nd7 12.dxe6N

12.O-O

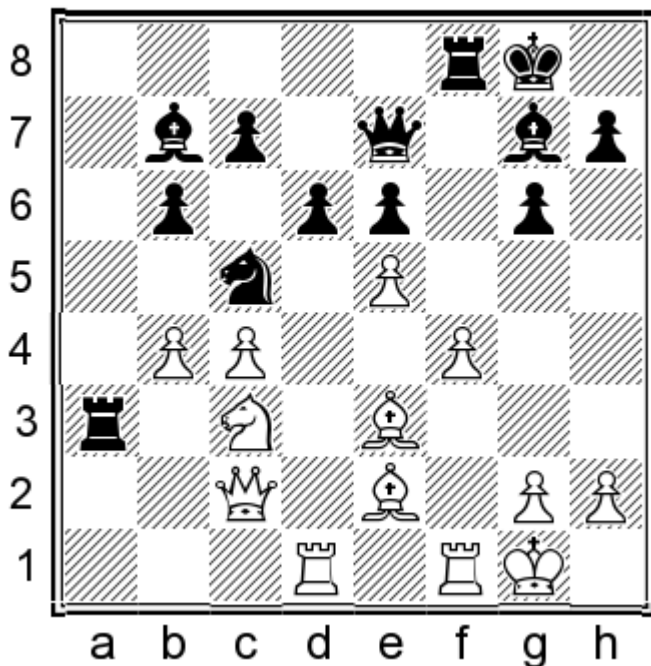
12...fxe6 13.O-O

13.h4 Nc5 14.h5 Bxc3 15.Bxc3 (15.bxc3 Qf6∞) 15...Nxe4 16.hxc6 Nxc3
17.Qd4 (17.gxh7+ Kh8 18.bxc3 Rxf4∞) 17...e5! 18.Qxc3 hxc6 19.fxe5 dxe5
20.Qxe5 Qf6 21.Qxf6 Rxf6 22.O-O-O Be6=

13...b6 14.Be3 Bb7 15.Qc2 Qe7 16.Rad1 a5,, 17.a3 Nc5 18.b4

18.Bf3 a4 19.g3 Bc6∞

18...axb4 19.axb4 Ra3! 20.e5?!

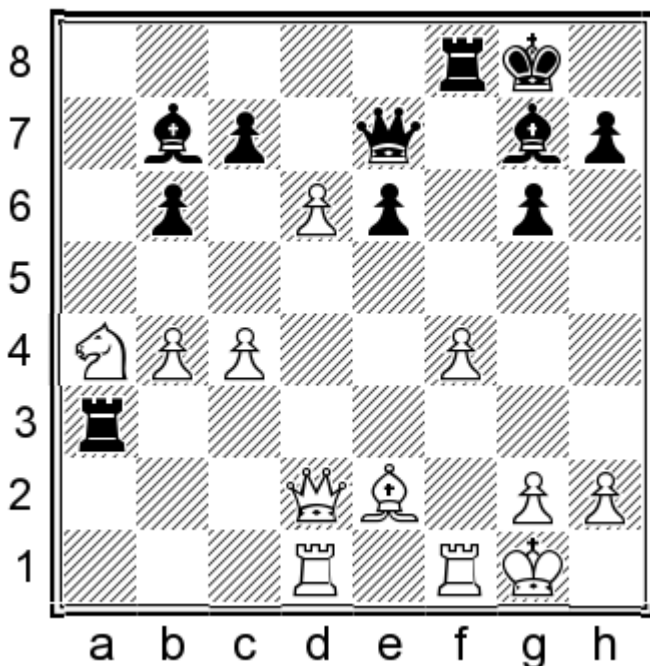


20.Bd4 Bxd4+ 21.Rxd4 e5! 22.Rdd1 (22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Ne6 24.fxe5 dxe5 25.Rxe5 Qxb4 26.Qd1 (26.Rxe6? Qc5+ 27.Kh1 Rxf1+ 28.Bxf1 Kf7-+) 26...Nf4 27.g3 Nxe2+ 28.Qxe2 Rxf1+ 29.Qxf1 Ra8 30.Rd5 =) 22...Ne6∞

20...Na4! 21.Nxa4?!

21.Rd3 Nxc3 22.Rxc3 Be4! 23.Qb2 Ra4 24.Ra3 Rxa3 25.Qxa3 dxe5μ;
21.Bd2 Nxc3 22.Bxc3 dxe5 23.Bxe5 (23.fxe5 Qg5 24.Rxf8+ Bxf8-+)
23...Bxe5 24.fxe5 Qxb4μ

21...Rxe3 22.Qd2 Ra3 23.exd6



23...Qd7! 24.dxc7 Qxd2?!

24...Qc6! 25.Bf3 Qxc7 26.Bxb7 Qxb7 27.Nb2 (27.Qc2 Qa7 28.Nb2 Ra2 29.Rb1 Qa3-+) 27...Ra2 28.Rb1 Qa8 29.Qc1 g5! 30.f5 Qe4 31.fxe6 Qd4+ 32.Kh1 Rxb2 33.e7 Re8μ

25.Rxd2 Rxa4 26.Bg4?

26.Rd8 Bf6 27.Rfd1 Ra8 28.Rxa8 Rxa8 29.Rd7 Kf8 30.Kf1! ∞

26...Bc8 27.Rd8 Kf7 28.Re1 Ra1-+ 29.Rxa1 Bxa1 30.c5 Bf6 31.Rd1 bxc5 32.b5 Bd4+ 33.Kh1 Ke7 34.b6 Kd6

34...Rxf4 35.Bf3 Rxf3 36.gxf3 Kd6

35.Re1 h5 36.Bf3 Rxf4 37.h3 Rxf3! 38.gxf3 Kc6 39.Rb1 e5 40.Kg2 Kb7 41.Kg3 c4 42.f4 c3 43.Kf3 c2 44.Rc1 Bf5 45.fxe5 Bxe5 0-1

196. * E73

Santos Ruiz, Miguel (2592) - Yuffa, Daniil (2584)

Alicante 148/196, 2021

1.c4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.e4 d6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Be2 O-O 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 Na6 8.h4 Nc5 9.Qc2

9.f3 - 143/(196)

9...c6 10.h5 cxd5 11.cxd5 Qa5 12.h6 Bh8 13.f3 Bd7

13...Nh5 14.a3 Ng3 15.b4 Qd8 16.Rh2 Nxe2 17.Ngxe2 Na6 18.Nb5 f5
 19.Nxa7N (19.Rc1 Bf6 20.Nec3 Bg5 21.Qd2 Bxe3 22.Qxe3 f4 23.Qf2 Nc7
 24.Nxa7 Bd7 25.b5 Qb8 26.b6 Na6©) 19...fxe4 20.Nxc8 (20.fxe4 Bg4μ)
 20...exf3 21.Nb6 fxe2 22.Kxe2 (22.Rc1 Rb8 23.Kxe2 e4∞) 22...Rb8 23.Rc1
 Bf6 24.Rf1 Nc7 25.Qa4 Rf7 26.g4 Na8 27.Rhf2 Nxb6 28.Bxb6 Qc8 29.Rxf6
 Qxg4+ 30.Kd3? (30.Ke1 Qe4+ 31.Kd2 Qxd5+ 32.Ke2 Qc4+ 33.Ke1 Qc3+=)
 30...e4+ 31.Ke3 Rxf6 32.Rxf6 Qg5+- + Tsvetkov,A (2395)-Risteski,E (2213)
 Beograd 148/(196) 2020

14.Rb1 Na4 15.Qd2 Nxc3 16.bxc3 b6N

16...Qc7 17.c4 b6 18.Bd3 (18.g4 Bc8 19.Nh3 Nd7 20.Nf2 Nc5 21.Nd3 Bf6
 22.Nxc5 bxc5 23.O-O Bd7 24.Rb3 Rab8 25.Rfb1 Rb6 26.g5 Bd8=) 18...Bc8
 19.Ne2 Nd7 20.Nc3 Nc5 21.Nb5 (21.a4 Bf6 22.Nb5 Qe7∞) 21...Qe7∞

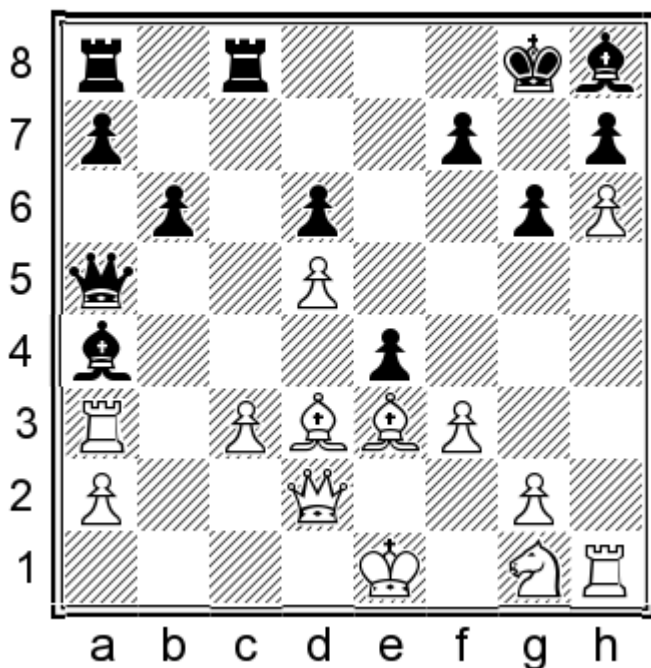
17.Rb3 Rfc8 18.Bd3 Ba4?!

18...Be8 19.Ne2 (19.Nh3 Nd7 20.Rb4 Nc5∞) 19...Nd7 20.Rb5 Qa3 21.Rb3
 Qa5 =

19.Ra3 Nxd5?!

19...b5 20.c4 Qxd2+ 21.Kxd2 bxc4 22.Rxa4 cxd3 23.Kxd3 Nd7 24.Ne2 ±

20.exd5 e4



21.c4! exd3 22.Qxa5 bxa5 23.Rxa4 Bc3+ 24.Bd2 Bd4

24...Bb4 25.Kd1 Bc5 (25...Rxc4 26.a3 + -) 26.Nh3 Rab8 27.Bc1 + -

25.Bxa5 Rab8 26.Kd2! Bc5

26...Rb1 27.Ne2! Rxh1 28.Nxd4 + -

27.Kxd3

27.Nh3 Rb2+ 28.Kxd3 Rxg2 29.Bd2 + -

27...Rb1 28.Kc2

28.Bd2 Rd1 29.Kc2 Rxg1 30.Rxg1 Bxg1 31.Kd3 Kf8 32.Bb4 Ke7 33.Ra6 + -

28...Rcb8 29.Bc3 Rf1 30.Ra6

30.Ra5 Kf8 31.Rb5 + -

30...f5 31.Rc6 Re8 32.Bd2 Ra1 33.Kd3 Rd1 34.f4 a5

34...Be3 35.Nf3! Rxh1 36.Bxe3 + -

35.Rh3 Rxg1

35...Bxg1 36.Rc7 Bd4 37.Rd7 + -

**36.Be3 Rd1+ 37.Kc2 Re1 38.Bxc5 R8e2+ 39.Kb3 dxc5 40.a3 Rxg2 41.Rxc5
g5 42.Rd3 Kf7 43.d6 1-0**

E75-E99

197. * E90

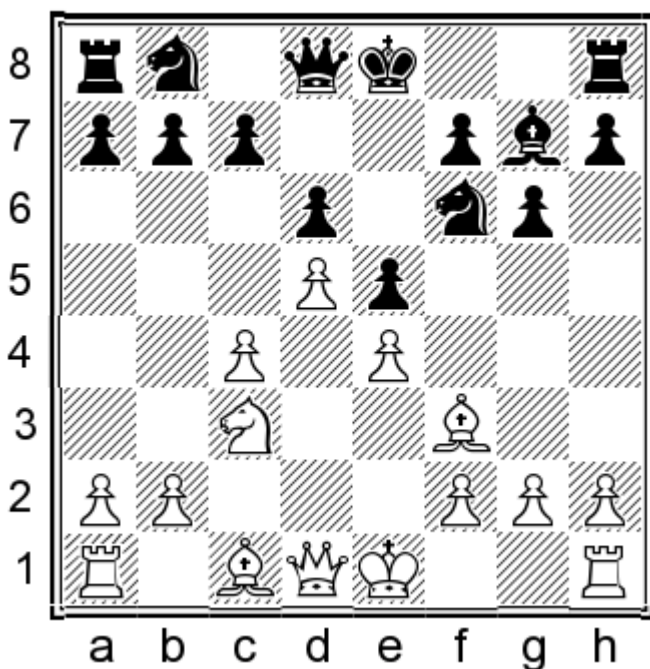
Martic, Ivan (2321) - Sedlak, Nikola (2514)

Srbija 148/197, 2021

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.d4 Bg4 6.Be2 Bxf3

6...Nfd7 - 83/ 562

7.Bxf3 e5 8.d5



8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Qxd8+ Kxd8 10.Be3 c6 11.O-O-O+ Kc7 12.Be2 (12.h4 h5
13.Be2 Nbd7 14.f3 Bh6 =) 12...h5 13.f3 Bh6 14.Bxh6 Rxh6 =

8...h5! 9.b3

9.Be3N Bh6 10.Bxh6 Rxh6 11.Qd2 Rh8 12.O-O-O Nbd7 13.Kb1 Kf8 14.h3
Kg7 15.Be2 Nc5 16.Bd3 a5 17.g3 (17.f4 exf4 18.Qxf4 Nfd7³) 17...h4 18.g4
Nh7 19.Bc2 Qg5³ Lisik,V (2440) -Ivanisevic,I (2606) chess.com (Int.-blitz)
148/(197) 2021

9.h4 a5 10.Be3 Bh6 11.Bxh6 Rxh6 12.Qd2 Rh8 13.b3 Nbd7 14.a3 Kf8 15.g3
Kg7 =; 9.O-O a5 10.a3 Nbd7 11.Be3 Bh6 12.Bxh6 Rxh6 13.Qd2 Rh8 14.b4

Kf8 15.Na4 Kg7 16.Rfc1 axb4 17.axb4 Qe7 18.Nc3 c5 19.dxc6 bxc6 =

9...Nbd7 10.O-O Bh6 11.Bb2 O-ON

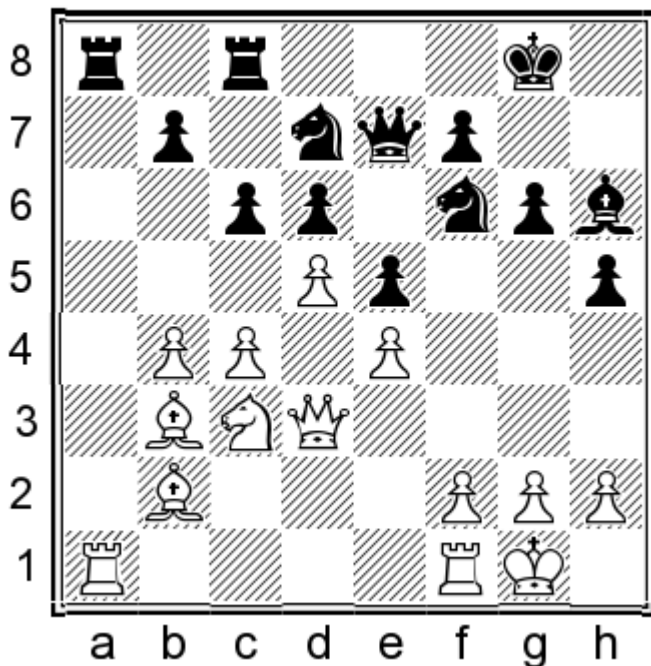
11...h4 12.b4 Kf8 13.c5 Kg7 ∞

12.b4 a5 13.a3 Qe7 14.Qd3 Rfc8 15.Bd1 c6 = 16.Bb3

16.dxc6 bxc6 17.Be2 Rcb8 18.b5 (18.Rfb1 Rb7 ∞) 18...Nc5 19.Qc2 Ne6

20.a4 Nd4 21.Qd3 Nd7 ∞

16...axb4 17.axb4



17...c5! 18.b5 h4 19.Ne2 Nh5 20.Qh3 Nf4 21.Qf3 Nf6 22.Nxf4 Bxf4 23.Bc2 Qd8

23...Nh5 24.Qg4 Nf6 25.Qf3 (25.Qxh4? Kg7- +) 25...Nh5 =

24.Qc3 Nd7 25.Qh3 Nb6 26.Bb3 Qg5 27.Qd3 Nd7 28.Bc3 Nf6 29.Bd1?!

29.Rfb1 Kg7 30.Bd1 Ng4 31.h3 (31.g3? Nxh2!- +) 31...Nf6 =

29...Rxa1 30.Bxa1 Ra8 31.Bb2?

31.Bc3 Ra2 32.Bb3 Ra3 33.Bb2 Ra8³

31...Bc1!μ 32.Bc3

32.Bxc1 Qxc1 33.Bc2 Qb2 34.Rb1 Qd4μ

32...Ra3 33.Bf3 Bb2 34.Qd2 Qxd2 35.Bxd2 h3! 36.Rb1 Bd4- + 37.Bg5 Kg7

38.b6

38.Bd2 Ra2 39.Be1 Nh5! 40.Bxh5 gxh5 41.gxh3 Rc2

38...Ra2 39.Bh4 hxc2 40.Kxg2 Rc2 41.Kf1 g5 42.Bg3 Rxc4 43.h4 g4 44.Be2 Rc3 45.Bb5 Nxe4 46.Kg2 Nxc3 47.fxc3 Rc2+ 48.Kh1 f5 49.Bc6 f4 0-1

198. E92

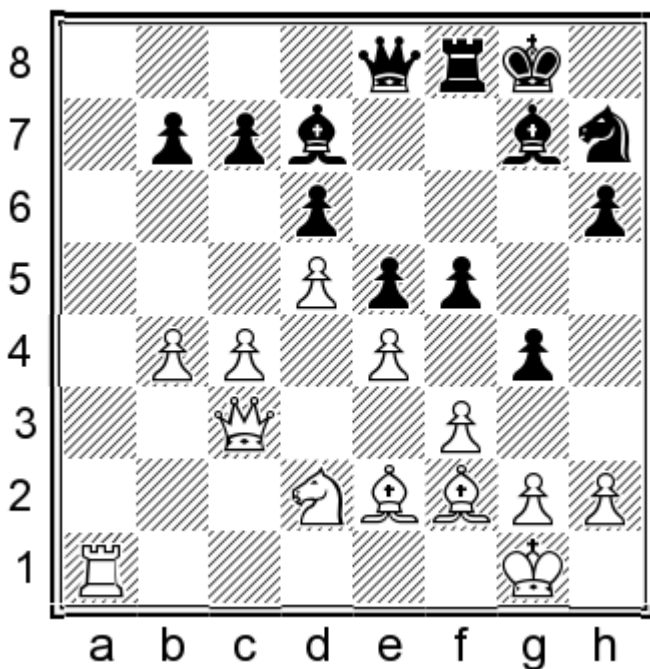
Maghsoodloo, Parham (2676) - Guseinov, Gadir (2665)

tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/198, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 O-O 6.Bg5 Na6 7.Nf3 h6 8.Bh4 e5 9.O-O Qe8 10.d5 Nc5 11.Nd2 a5 12.b3 Bd7 13.a3 Nh7 14.b4 Na4

14...Na6 - 76/527

15.Qc2 Nxc3 16.Qxc3 f5 17.f3 g5 18.Bf2 axb4 19.axb4 Rxa1 20.Rxa1 g4N



20...f4 21.c5 Qg6 22.cxd6 cxd6 23.Qc7 ±

21.fxg4! fxe4

21...fxg4 22.c5 h5 23.Be3 Nf6 24.Ra7 ±

22.h3!

22.Nxe4 Qg6 23.Qe3 Bxc4 24.Bxc4 Qxc4 25.h3 Qh5 26.c5²

22...Qg6 23.Qe3 Nf6 24.Rf1

24.Ra7 Bc8 25.b5 Kh8 26.Bd1! ... Bc2+-

24...c6 25.Bh4

25.dxc6 bxc6 26.b5 d5 27.cxd5 cxd5 28.Qb3 ±

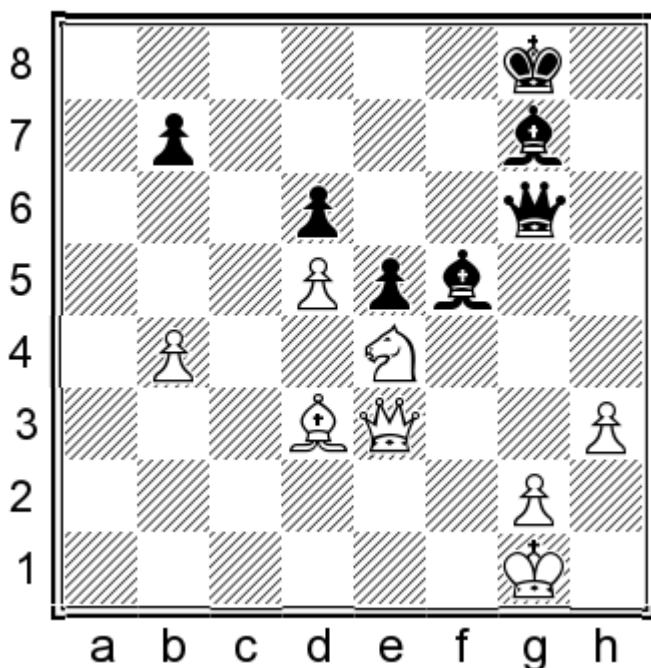
25...cxd5 26.Bxf6 Rxf6?!

26...Bxf6 27.cxd5 Bg5 28.Qxe4 Be8 29.Rxf8+ Kxf8 30.Qf3+ Qf7 31.Ne4 Qxf3 32.gxf3²

27.cxd5 Rxf1+ 28.Bxf1 h5

¹28...Qf7 29.g3 h5 30.gxh5 Qxh5 31.g4 Bh6 32.Qxe4 Qg5 33.Nc4 ±

29.gxh5 Qxh5 30.Nxe4 Qg6 31.Bd3 Bf5



32.Qf3

32.Nf2! b5 33.Bxf5 Qxf5 34.Ne4 +-

32...Bxe4 33.Bxe4 Qg5 34.b5 b6

34...Qc1+ 35.Kf2 Qc5+ 36.Kg3 Qxb5 37.Qf5 ±

35.Kh2?!

35.Kf2 Qd2+ 36.Kg3 Qg5+ 37.Qg4 ±

35...Qf4+ 36.g3 Qd2+?

36...Qxf3 37.Bxf3 e4! 38.Bxe4 Bc3 39.Kg2² (39.g4 Be1 40.g5 Bh4 41.g6 Kg7 =)

37.Qg2 Qe1 38.h4 Bh6?

38...Qe3 39.Kh3 Bf8 40.Qc2 + -

39.Qf3 Qe3 40.Qxe3 Bxe3 41.g4 + - Bf2 42.Kh3 Kg7 43.g5 Be1 44.h5 Bd2 45.Kg4 Be3 46.h6+ Kf7 47.Kh5 Bf4 48.g6+ 1-0

199. E94

Shuvalova, Polina (2476) - Shomoev, Anton (2563)

Chelyabinsk 148/199, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Be2 c6 7.O-O e5 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Nxe5 Nxe4 10.Nxe4 Bxe5 11.Bg5 Qxd1 12.Rfxd1 Nd7

12...Na6 - 135/ (197)

13.Nd6 Nf6 14.Bf3 Kg7 15.Rd2 h6N

15...a5 16.Re1 Bxd6 17.Rxd6 Be6 18.Bd2 Kg8 19.Bc3 Ne8 20.Rd4²

16.Be3 Ng4

16...Bg4 17.Nxb7 Bxf3 18.gxf3 Rfb8 19.f4 (19.Nc5 Bxb2 20.Rb1 Be5 21.Rxb8 Rxb8 22.Kg2²) 19...Bxf4 20.Bxf4 Rxb7 21.Re1²

17.Bxg4

17.Bd4 Bxd4 18.Rxd4 Ne5 19.Be2 g5 20.Re1 (20.f4 gxf4 21.Rxf4 b6 22.Raf1 (22.Nf5+ Bxf5 23.Rxf5 f6 24.Rd1 Rad8 =) 22...Be6 =) 20...f6 21.g3 Rd8 22.Red1 Kf8 23.b4²

17...Bxg4 18.h3

18.Nxb7 Rfb8 19.h3 Rxb7 (19...Bxh3 20.Na5 Rxb2 21.Nxc6 Bf6 22.Rxb2 Bxb2 23.Rb1 Bd7 24.Nxa7 Be5 25.Rb7²) 20.hxg4 Rxb2 21.Rxb2 Bxb2 22.Rb1 Be5 23.Rb3²

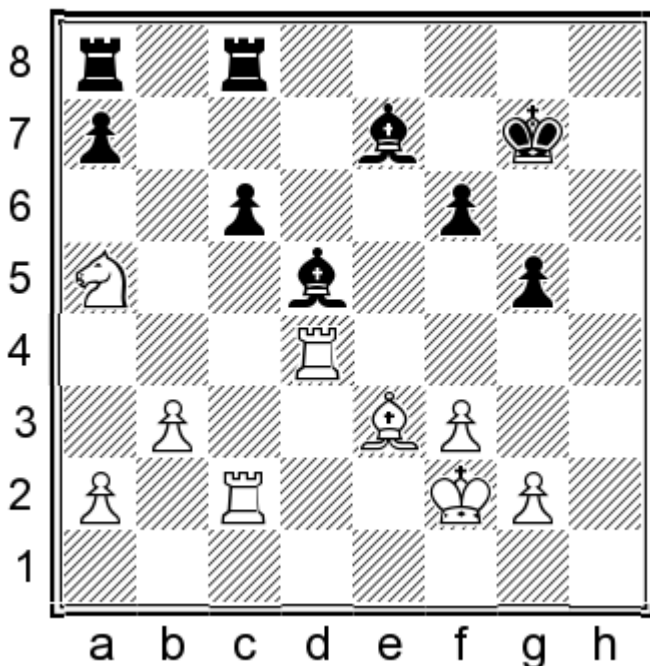
18...Be6 19.Nxb7 Bxc4 20.Na5 Bd5 21.Rc1² Rfc8

21...Rac8 22.b4 a6 23.a3²

22.b3 Bd6 23.Rd4 g5 24.h4

24.b4 Be5 25.Rd2 a6 26.Rdc2 Rab8 27.a3²

24...Ba3 25.Rc2 Be7 26.hxg5 hxg5 27.f3 f6 28.Kf2



28...Bd8! 29.Nb7 Bb6 = 30.Ra4 Re8 31.Bc5 Kg6 32.Ra6 Rab8 33.Na5 Re6
 34.Bxb6 axb6 35.Nc4 Bxc4 36.Rxc4 Rd8 37.Rc2 c5 38.Re2 Rdd6 39.a4 Kf7
 40.Ra7+ Kg6 41.Ra6 Kf7 42.Ra7+ 1/2-1/2

200. E94

Goryachkina, Aleksandra (2593) - Guseinov, Gadir (2665)
 tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 148/200, 2021

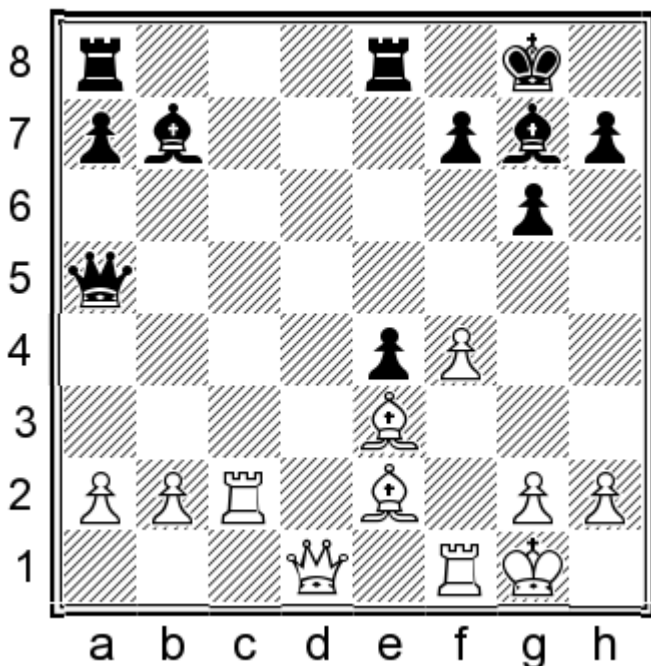
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Be2 c6 7.O-O e5 8.Be3
 exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 10.f3 d5 11.cxd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 cxd5 13.Rc1 Nc6

13...a5 - 115/196

14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.Rxc6 Bb7 16.Rc2

16.Rc1 Bxb2 (16...dxe4 17.Qxd8 Rxd8 18.f4 a5 =) 17.Rb1 Qf6 18.Rf2 Bc6
 19.Bb5 Bc3 20.Bg5 Qd6 21.Bxc6 Qxc6 22.exd5 Qd6 =

16...dxe4 17.f4 Qa5?!N



17...Qe7 18.Qc1 (18.f5 Rac8 19.Bc4 Rxc4 20.Rxc4 Ba6 21.f6! Bxf6 22.Rxf6 Qxf6 (22...Bxc4 23.Rd6 Bxa2 24.Qd4 ∞) 23.Rd4 Bd3 24.h3 ∞) 18...Bd5 19.b3 Be6 20.Rc7 Qb4 ∞

18.Qd7! Ba6 19.Rc7 Qxc7

19...Rf8 20.Rxa7 Bc8 21.Rxa5 Bxd7 22.b4 Bc3 23.Rd1 Be6 24.Rxa8 Rxa8 25.b5 Rxa2 26.Kf1 ±

20.Qxc7 Bxe2 21.Rc1 Bg4 22.Qb7

22.h3 Rac8 (22...Be6 23.b3 ±) 23.Qb7 ±

22...a5 23.b3 a4 24.bxa4

24.b4 Rab8 25.Qa6 Rxb4 26.h3 Be6 27.a3 Rb3 28.Qxa4 Rd8©

24...Rxa4 25.Rc2

25.h3 Be6 26.g4 Rea8 (26...Ra3 27.f5 gxf5 28.gxf5 Bxf5 29.Qb5 Rf8 30.Qxf5 Rxe3 31.a4²) 27.Rf1 Bxa2 28.f5²

25...Be6 26.Qc6 Rea8 27.Rd2 Bf6 28.h3 Rxa2 29.Rxa2 Rxa2 30.Qxe4 h5 31.Qd3 Ra4 32.Qc2 Rc4 33.Qd2 Kg7 34.Kh2 Bf5 35.Qd5 Ra4 36.Bc5 Ra6

36...Be6 37.Qf3 Rc4 =

37.Bd4 Bxd4 38.Qxd4+ Kg8 39.Qd8+ Kg7 40.Qd4+ Kg8 41.Qd8+ Kg7 42.Qd4+ 1/2-1/2

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Be2 e5 7.O-O exd4
 8.Nxd4 Re8 9.f3 Nc6 10.Be3 Nh5 11.Qd2 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Nf4 13.Rfd1
 Bxd4+ 14.Qxd4 Nxe2+ 15.Nxe2 b6 16.Rac1

16.Rd2 - 120/(198)

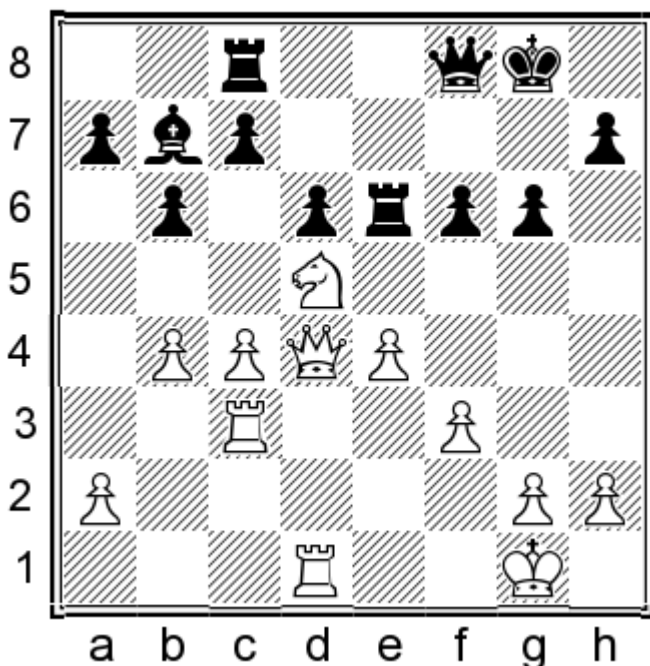
16...Bb7 17.Nc3 Re6N

17...Qg5 - 148/(201) 18.b4 a5N (18...Rad8) 19.b5 Re7 20.Rf1 Rae8 21.Rce1
 Qe5 22.Qxe5 Rxe5 23.Nd5 Bxd5 24.cxd5 f5 25.Rc1 R8e7 26.Rfe1 fxe4
 27.fxe4 Rxe4 = 28.Rxe4 Rxe4 29.Rxc7 Rd4 30.Rc6 Rxd5 1/2 (30)
 Krstulovic,A (2375)-Ongut,T (2338) Budapest 148/(201) 2021 (30...Rxd5
 31.Rxb6 Kf7 32.Rb7+ Kf6 33.b6 Rb5 =) 17...Re5

18.Nd5 Rc8 19.Rc3 f6 20.b4

20.Nf4 Re5 21.c5 bxc5 22.Qc4+ Kh8 23.Nd3 Rg5 (23...Re8 24.Nxc5 + -)
 24.g4 ±

20...Qf8



20...Bxd5 21.cxd5 Re5 22.Ra3 Ra8 23.Rc1²

21.Nf4! Re5?!

21...Ree8 22.c5 dxc5 23.bxc5 Rcd8 24.Qc4+ Kh8 25.Rxd8 Rxd8 26.Rc1
(26.h3 $\pm$) 26...Qxc5+ 27.Qxc5 bxc5 28.Rxc5 c6 29.Ra5 a6 30.Kf2 $\pm$

22.c5 dxc5 23.bxc5 Kh8

23...bxc5 24.Qa4 Ba8 25.Nd3 Re7 26.Nxc5 $\pm$

24.c6 Ba6 25.Nd5 Qd6 26.Qa4 Be2 27.Rd2 b5 28.Qa6! +- Rce8 29.Rxe2
Rxd5 30.exd5 Rxe2 31.Qc8+ Kg7 32.Qd7+ Qe7 33.d6 1-0

202. E95

Bjerre, Jonas Buhl (2550) - Praggnanandhaa, Rameshbabu (2608)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 148/202, 2021

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.O-O e5 8.Be3
c6 9.d5 c5 10.Ne1 Kh8 11.g4

11.Nd3 - 107/(177)

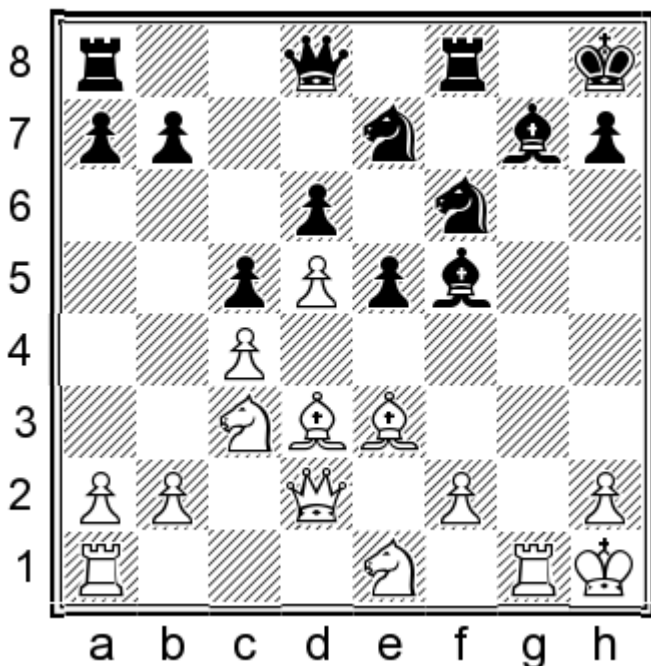
11...Ng8 12.Qd2 f5 13.gxf5 gxf5 14.exf5 Ne7 15.Kh1

15.Bd3 Nf6 16.f3 (16.Bg5 Nxf5 17.Kh1 Qe8³) 16...Nxf5 17.Bg5 Nd4 18.Ng2
Bh3³

15...Nf6N

15...Nxf5 16.Bg5 Bf6 17.f4 (17.Ne4 Bxg5 18.Nxg5 Nf6 19.Bd3 Qe7 ^{∞})
17...exf4 18.Bxf4²

16.Bd3 Bxf5 17.Rg1



17.Bg5 Qd7 18.Ng2 Ng6 19.Rae1 a6 20.Bxf5 Qxf5 ∞

17...e4! 18.Be2 Ng6 19.Rg5

19.Rg3 Ne5 20.Bf4 Nfg4 21.Bxg4 Nxg4 22.Ng2 Ne5 23.Bg5 Qd7 ∞

19...Qd7 20.Nc2 Rf7 21.Rag1 Raf8 22.Qe1?

22.Ne1 Ne5 23.Rxg7 Rxg7 24.Rxg7 Qxg7 25.Bh6 Qf7 26.Bxf8 Qxf8 27.Qf4 Bg6 ∞

22...Ne5 23.Qf1 Nf3 24.Bxf3 exf3 25.Ne1

25.Qc1 h6 26.R5g3 Nh5- +

25...Ng4 26.Bf4 Bd4 27.Bg3 Rf6

27...Nf6 28.Nb5 Ne4 29.Rxf5 Qxf5 30.Nxd6 Nxd6 31.Bxd6 Re8- +

28.Nxf3

28.Nb5 Be5- +

28...Bxc3!- + 29.Nh4

29.bxc3 Be4- +

29...Be4+ 30.f3 Rxf3! 31.Nxf3 Rxf3 32.Qg2 Rxg3 0-1

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 XU XING, [1] — *Wojasze*

Y

- YAKUBOV, SUJEBEK [1] — *Armenyev, Nikolai* 122
 YU XANGYU [1] — *Armen*, *Armen* 120
 YUFEA, DANIEL [1] — *Perez Ponsa* 162; *Sol*, *Armen*, *Armen* 120

Z

- ZAKHARTSOV, VLADIMIR [1] — *Armenyev, Nikolai* 122; *Armenyev, Nikolai* 122
 ZHAO, J. N. [1] — *Xu Xiang* 66
 ZHOU, AN [1] — *Kozmich*, *Dmitri* 112
 ZILBOV, ALEXANDER [1] — *Armenyev, Nikolai* 122

CLASSIFICATION

I – Combinations with mating attack

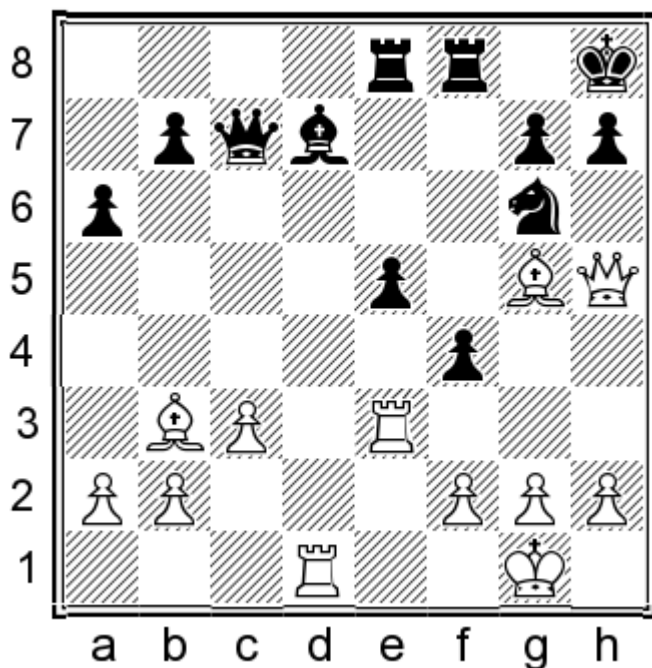
II – Combinations to reach the draw

III – Other combinations

1. Katkov, Michelle (2078) - Lian, Marina (1870)

Israel (ch), 2021

I a



1.? +-

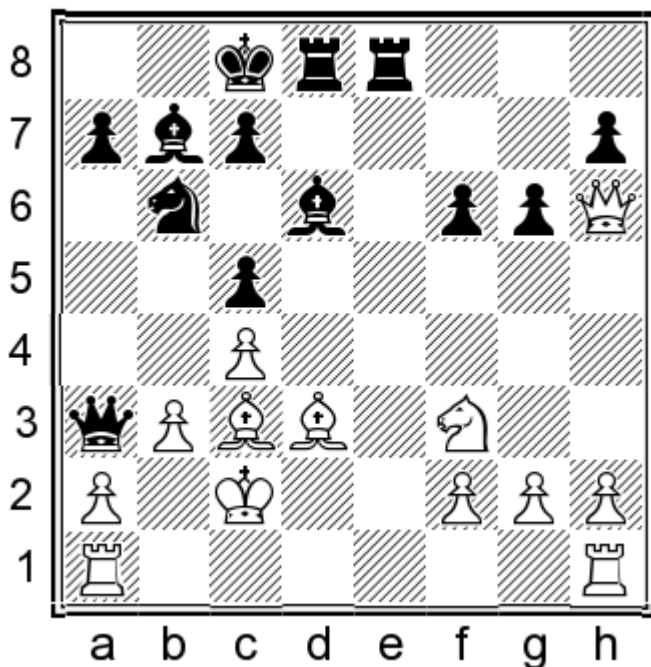
Show/Hide Solution

1.Rxd7! Qxd7 2.Rh3 h6 3.Bxh6! Qf5?

3...Re6 4.Bg5+ Kg8 5.Qh7+ Kf7 6.Rh6! +-

4.Bg5#

2. Perunovic, Milos (2567) - Predke, Alexandr (2690)
tornelo.com (Internet-m/2), 2021
1 a



1...? μ

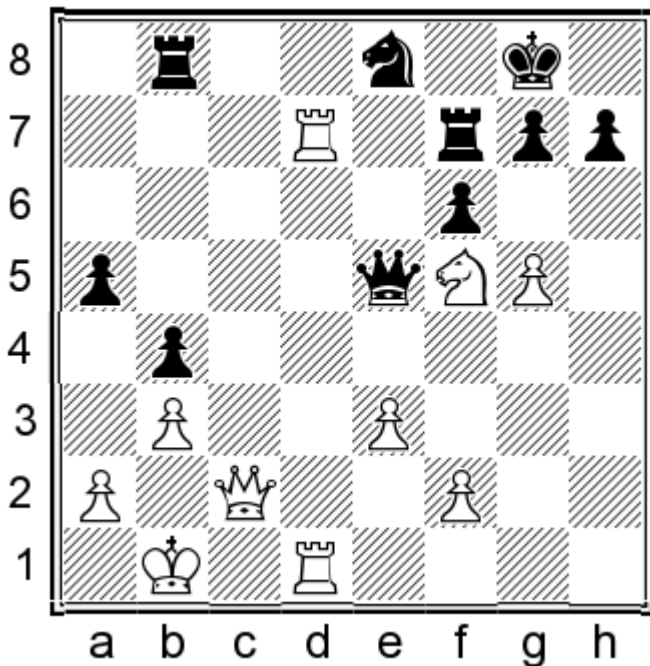
Show/Hide Solution

1...Re2+! 2.Nd2

2.Bxe2 Be4+ 3.Bd3 Bxd3+ 4.Kd1 (4.Kxd3 Bf4+- +) 4...Bxc4 5.Nd2 Be6- +

2...Rxf2μ

3. Dzagnidze, Nana (2524) - Stefanova, Antoaneta (2470)
Gibraltar, 2021
1 a

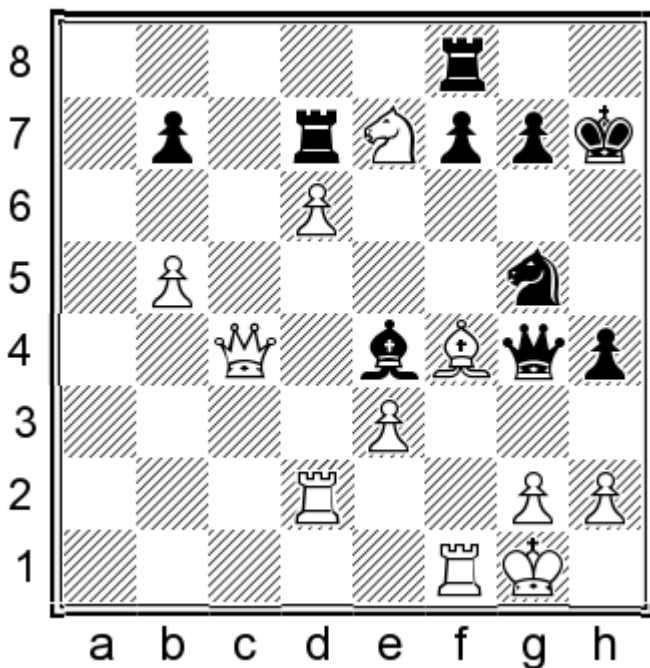


1.? +-

Show/Hide Solution

1.Nh6+! gxf6 2.Rxf7 Kxf7 3.Qxh7+ Ng7 4.g6+ Ke6 5.Qxg7 Qf5+ 6.Ka1
Qe5+ 7.Rd4 Rd8 8.Qf7+ Kf5 9.g7! Rxd4 10.Qh5+ 1-0

4. Nakamura, Hikaru (2736) - Carlsen, Magnus (2847)
chess24.com (Internet-rapid-m2/1), 2021
1 f



1...? -+

Show/Hide Solution

1...Nh3+?

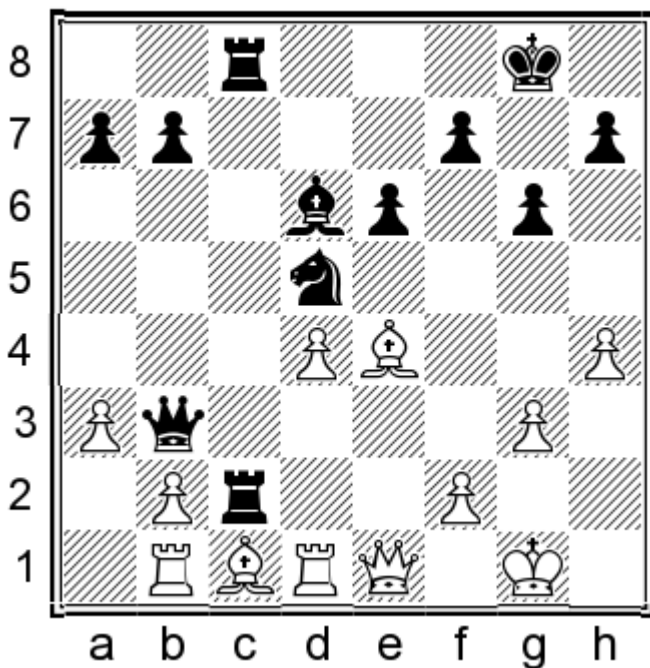
1...Rxd6!! 2.Bxd6 Nh3+ 3.Kh1 Bxg2+ 4.Rxg2 Qxc4- +

2.Kh1 f5 3.Qe6 Nxf4?

3...Rfd8 ∞

4.Rxf4 Ra8 5.Kg1 Ra1+ 6.Rf1 Rxf1+ 7.Kxf1 +-

5. Krasteva, Beloslava (2287) - Govedarica, Radovan (2300)
Beograd, 2021
! g



1...? -+

Show/Hide Solution

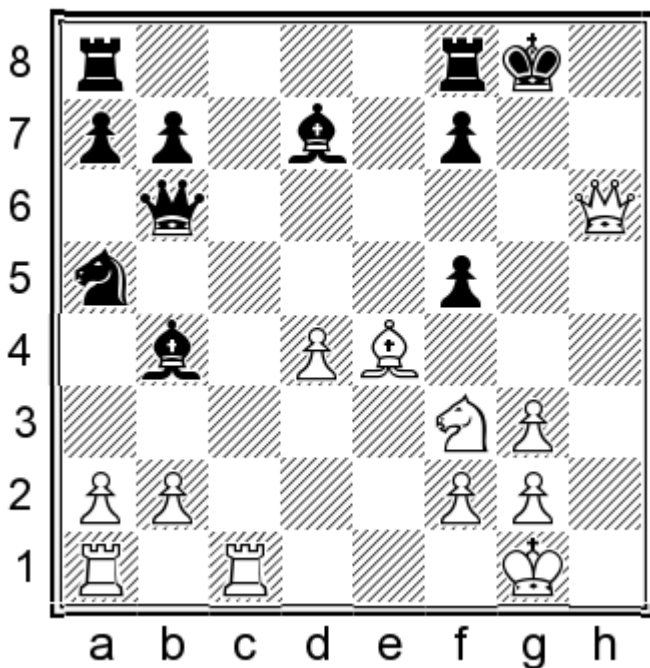
1...Rxf2! 2.Rd3

2.Qxf2 Qxd1+; 2.Kxf2 Bxg3+

2...Qc2

2...Qa2! 3.Kxf2 (3.Bh6 Rxb2- +) 3...Qxb1 4.Rd1 (4.Rc3 Rxc3 5.Bxb1 Bxg3+ 6.Ke2 Bxe1 7.bxc3 Bxc3- +) 4...Qa1 5.Kg2 Bxa3!- +

3.Rd2 Rxd2 4.Bxc2 Rdxc2μ



1.? +-

Show/Hide Solution

1.Rc6!

1.Bc6!?

1...fxe4

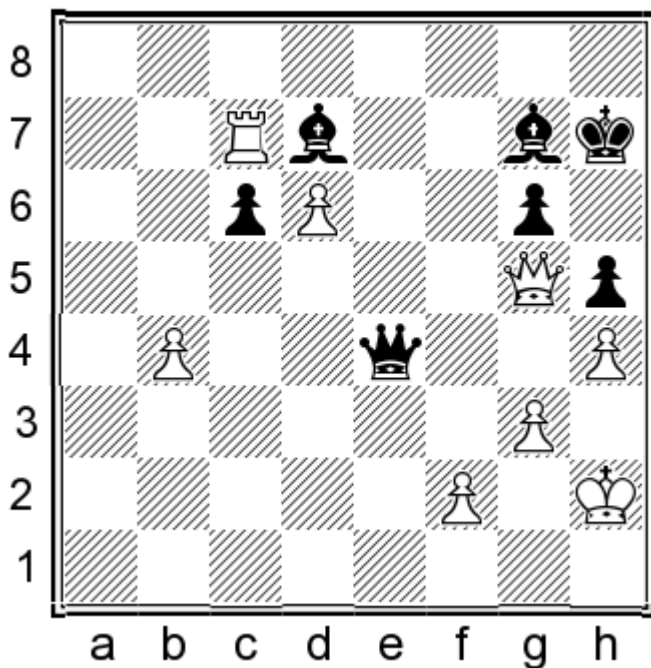
1...bxc6 2.Ng5 +-

2.Rxb6 axb6 3.Ng5 Bf5 4.g4 Bg6 5.Ne6! fxe6 6.Qxg6+ Kh8 7.g3 e3 8.fxe3 Nc4 9.Qh6+ 1-0

7. Ben Ari, Yannay (2403) - Rechlis, Gad (2513)

Israel (ch), 2021

Il h



1...? =

Show/Hide Solution

1...Bh3! 2.f3

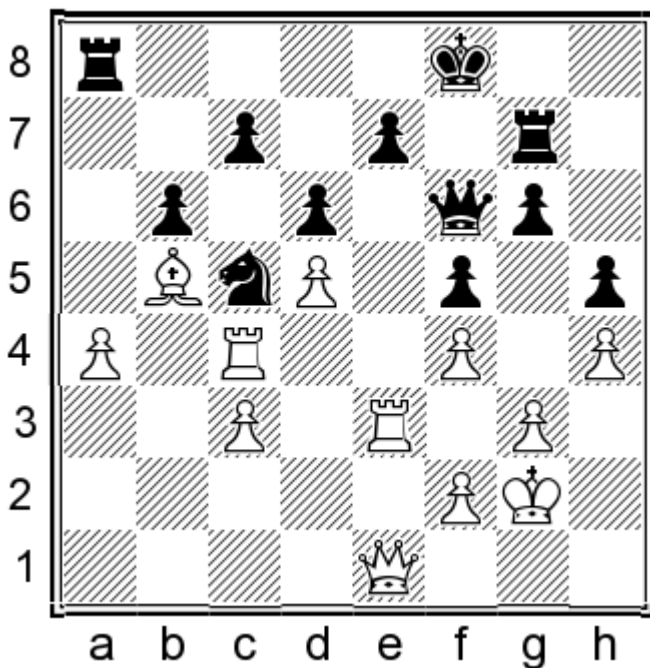
2.Kxh3 Qh1#

2...Qxf3 3.Rxg7+! Kxg7 4.Qe7+ Qf7 5.Kxh3 Qxe7 6.dxe7 Kf7 7.g4 Kxe7 =

8. Boruchovsky, Avital (2541) - Gorshtein, Ido (2387)

Israel (ch), 2021

III a



1.? +-

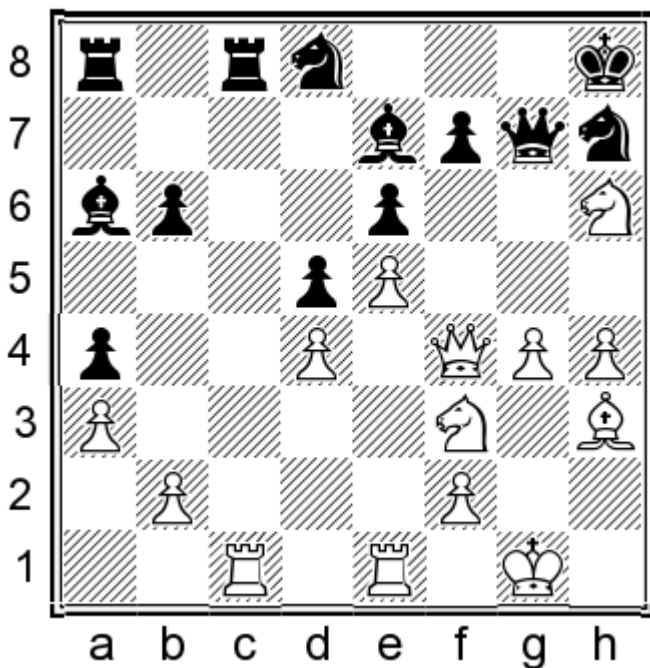
Show/Hide Solution

1.Rxc5! bxc5

1...dxc5 2.Re6 Qf7 3.Qe5 Ra7 4.Rxb6! Kg8 5.Re6 Kh7 6.Qe3 Qf8 7.Qxc5 Qd8 8.Rc6 Qa8 9.c4 Qb8 10.Re6 +-

2.Re6 Qf7 3.Bc6 Ra6 4.Qe2! Rxc6 5.dxc6 Qe8 6.Qa6 Kf7 7.Re1 Rg8 8.Qb7 1-0

9. Demchenko, Anton (2610) - Girya, Olga (2432)
Chelyabinsk, 2021
III i



1...? -+

Show/Hide Solution

1...Rxc1

1...Bxh4! 2.Nxh4 Ng5 3.Nxf7+ Ndx7 4.Bg2 Nh6- +

2.Rxc1 Rc8

2...Bxh4! 3.Nxh4 Ng5 4.Qf6 Nxh3+ 5.Kg2 Kh7 6.Qxg7+ Kxg7 7.N6f5+ exf5 8.Nxf5+ Kf8 9.Kxh3 Rc8μ

3.Rxc8 Bxc8 4.g5©

ENDINGS

By IM Goran Arsović

CLASSIFICATION

△

△0	1, 2, 3 △ : ♀ 1 ♀ : 1 △ 2 ♀ : △ 2 ♀
△1	1 2 △ : 2 △
△2	3 ♀ : 3 △
△3	4 ♀ : 4 △ 5 ♀ : 5 △ 6 △ : 6 △ 7 ♀ : 7 △ 8 ♀ : 8 △
△4	2 ♀ : 1 △
△5	3 ♀ : 2 △
△6	4 ♀ : 3 △
△7	5 △ : 4 △
△8	6 △ : 5 △ 7 ♀ : 6 △ 8 ♀ : 7 △
△9	1 △

△△

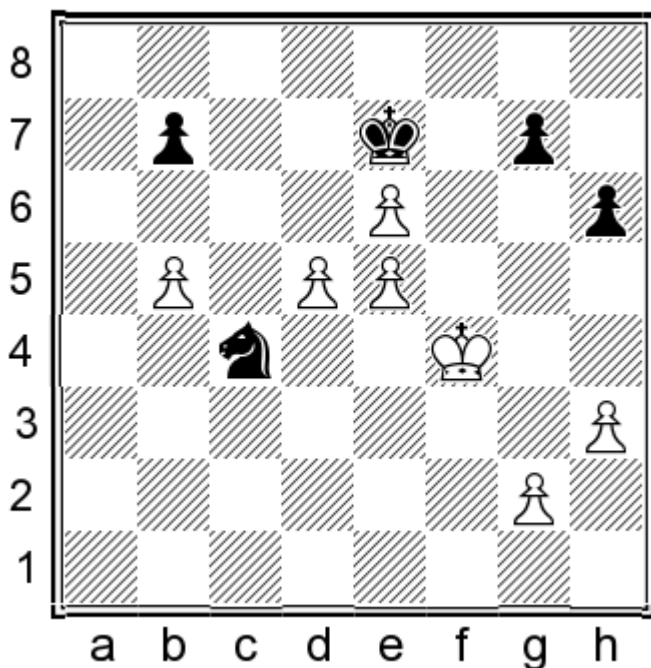
△△0	△ : ♀ △ : △
△△1	△ : ♀ △ : △
△△2	△ : △
△△3	△ (△) : △ (△) △ (△) : △ (△)
△△4	△ (△) : △ (△) △ >
△△5	△ (△) : △ (△) △ >
△△6	△ : △ △
△△7	△ : △ △
△△8	△△/△△/△△ : ♀ △△/△△/△△ : △ △△/△△/△△ : △△
△△9	△△

△△

△△0	△ : ♀ △ : △
△△1	△ : ♀
△△2	△ : △
△△3	△ (△) : △ (△) △ (△) : △ (△)
△△4	△ - 2, 3, 4 △ : △ (△)
△△5	△ - 2 ♀ : △ - 1 △
△△6	1 △ : △ △ >
△△7	△ (△) : △ (△) >
△△8	△ : △△/△△/△△ △ : △△/△△/△△/△△/△△/△△ △△/△△ : △ △△/△△ : △/△ △△/△△ : △
△△9	1 △

△△

△△0	△ : ♀ △ : △
△△1	△ : △ △ : △
△△2	△ : △
△△3	△ (△) : △ (△) △ (△) : △ (△)
△△4	△ (△) : △ (△)
△△5	△ : △△/△△/△△ △ : △△/△△
△△6	△ : △△ △ : △△/△△/△△/△△/△△/△△ △ : △△/△△/△△/△△ △ : △△△/△△△ △ : △△△
△△7	△△/△△ : △ △△/△△ : △/△ △△/△△ : △ △△/△△ : △
△△8	△△/△△ : △△/△△/△△ △△/△△ : △△/△△ △△/△△ : △△ △△/△△ : △△/△△
△△9	1 △



1...? -+

Show/Hide Solution

1...Na3!

1...h5? 2.Ke4 Na3 3.Kd4 Nxb5+ 4.Kc4 Na7 (4...Na3+ 5.Kb3 Nb1 6.Kc2 =)
 5.h4! b6 6.Kb4 =

2.Kf5 Nxb5- + 3.h4 h5 4.g3 b6 5.g4 hxg4 6.Kxg4 Nc3 7.d6+

7.Kg5 Nxd5 8.Kg6 Kxe6

7...Kxe6 8.Kg5 b5 9.Kg6 b4 10.Kxg7 b3 11.d7

11.h5 b2 12.h6 b1=Q 13.h7 Qg1+

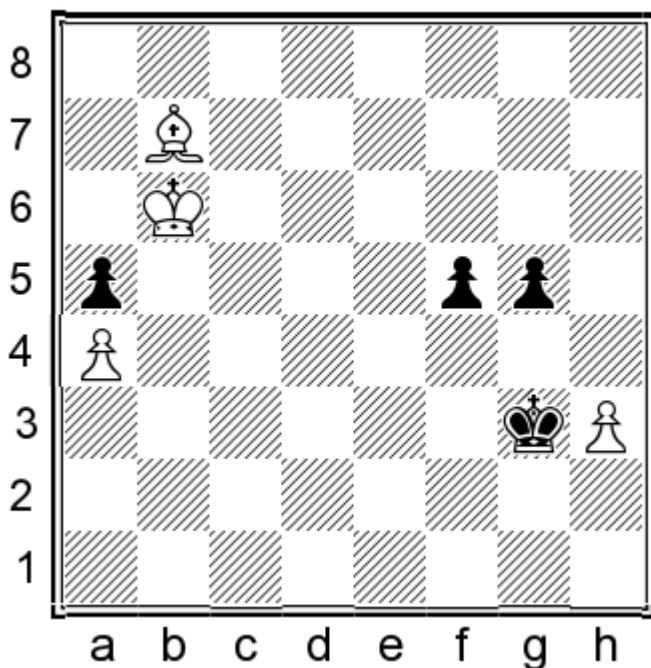
**11...Kxd7 12.h5 b2 13.h6 b1=Q 14.h7 Qg1+ 15.Kf7 Qh2 16.Kg8 Qg3+
 17.Kf7 Qf4+**

17...Qxe5 18.Kg8 Qg5+ 19.Kf7 Ne4 20.h8=Q Nd6+ 21.Kf8 Qe7+ 22.Kg8

Qf7#

18.Kg8 Qg5+ 19.Kf7 Qf5+ 20.Kg7 Qg5+ 21.Kf7 Qh6 22.e6+ Kd6 23.Kg8
Qg6+ 24.Kh8 Nd5 25.e7 Qf6+ 26.Kg8 Nxe7# 0-1

2. Saric, Ivan (2652) - Doric, Darko (2479)
Oesterreich, 2021
NB 1/h



1...? =

Show/Hide Solution

1...f4!

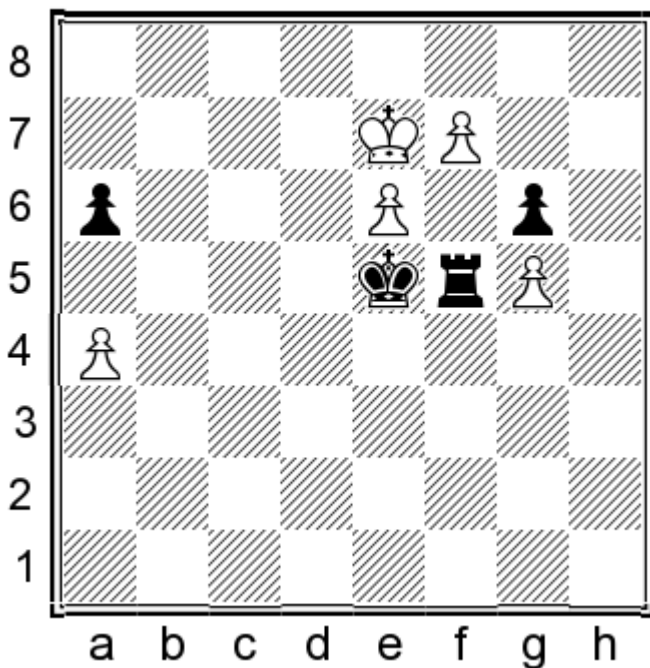
1...Kxh3? 2.Bc8 +-

2.Kxa5 Kxh3

2...f3? 3.Bxf3 Kxf3 4.Kb5 Kg3 5.a5 Kxh3 6.a6 g4 7.a7 g3 8.a8=Q +-

3.Kb4 g4 4.Kc3 g3 = 5.a5 g2 6.Bxg2+ Kxg2 7.a6 f3 8.a7 f2 9.a8=Q+ Kg1
10.Qg8+ Kh1 1/2-1/2

3. Nabaty, Tamir (2638) - Solomon, Asif (2356)



1.? +-

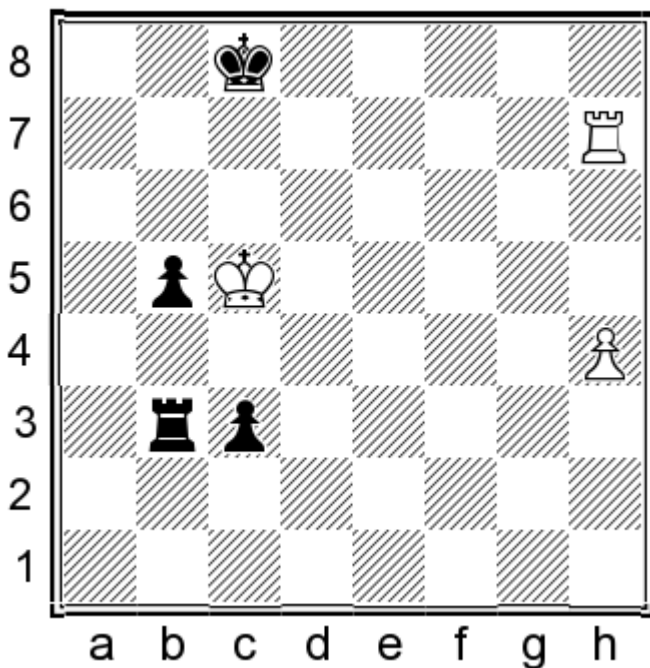
Show/Hide Solution

1.a5!

1.f8=Q? Rxf8 2.Kxf8 Kxe6 3.Ke8 (3.Kg7? Kf5 4.Kh6 a5-+ ♠) 3...a5 4.Kd8 Kf5 5.Kc7 Kxg5 6.Kb6 Kf4 7.Kxa5 =

1...Rf4 2.f8=Q Rxf8 3.Kxf8 Kxe6 4.Kg7 Kf5 5.Kh6 ♠ 1-0

4. Mesaros, Florian (2410) - Schwabeneder, Florian (2440)
Oesterreich, 2021
R 5/g



1.? =

Show/Hide Solution

1.Kc6! Kd8 2.Kd6 Ke8 3.Ke6 Kf8 4.Kf6 Kg8 5.Rg7+!

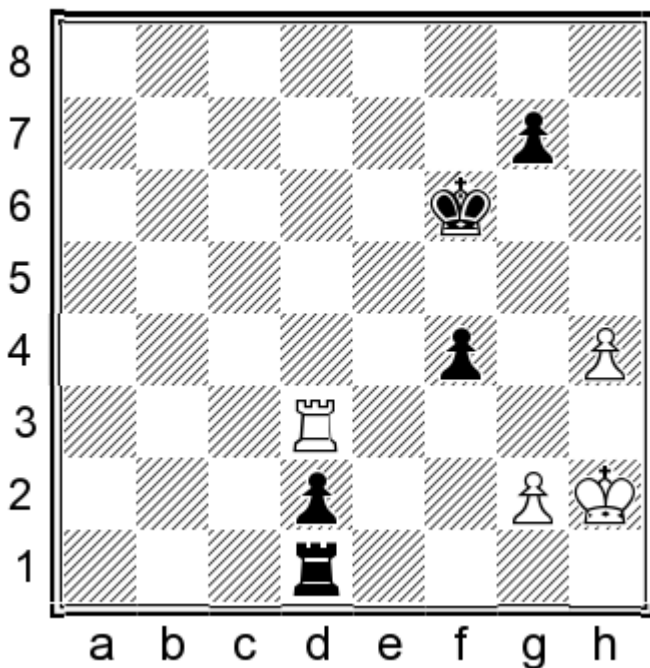
5.Rc7? b4- +

5...Kh8

5...Kf8 6.Rc7 (6.Rb7 Ke8 7.Ke6 Kd8 8.Kd6 Kc8 9.Rc7+ Kb8 10.h5 b4 (10...Ra3 11.Rc5 b4 12.Rb5+ Kc8 13.Rxb4 Ra6+ 14.Kd5 Rh6=) 11.h6 Rb1 12.Rc4 Rh1 13.Rxb4+ Ka7 14.Rc4=) 6...Ke8 7.h5 Kd8 8.Rc6 b4 9.h6 Rb1 10.h7 Rh1 11.Kg7 Kd7 12.Rc4=

6.Rc7 Rb4 7.Rxc3 Rxb4 8.Rb3 1/2-1/2

5. Sedlak, Nikola (2514) - Budisavljevic, Luka (2510)
Srbija, 2021
R 6/b



1.? =

Show/Hide Solution

1.g3! fxc3+ 2.Kg2! = Kf5 3.Rd4 g6 4.Rd3 Kf4 5.Rd6

5.Rd4+?? Ke3 6.Rd6 Re1- +

5...Ke5 6.Rd8 Kf6 7.Rd7 Ke6 8.Rd8 Ke5 9.Rd7 Ke4 10.Rd8 Ke3 11.Re8+ Kf4 12.Rd8 Kg4 13.Rd4+ Kh5 14.Rd5+ Kxh4 15.Rd4+ Kg5 16.Rd8 Kf4 17.Rf8+ Kg4 18.Rd8 g5 19.Rd4+ Kf5 20.Rd5+ Kf4 21.Rd3 Re1 22.Rxd2 Re4 23.Ra2

23.Kh3 g4+ 24.Kg2 Ra4 25.Rb2 =

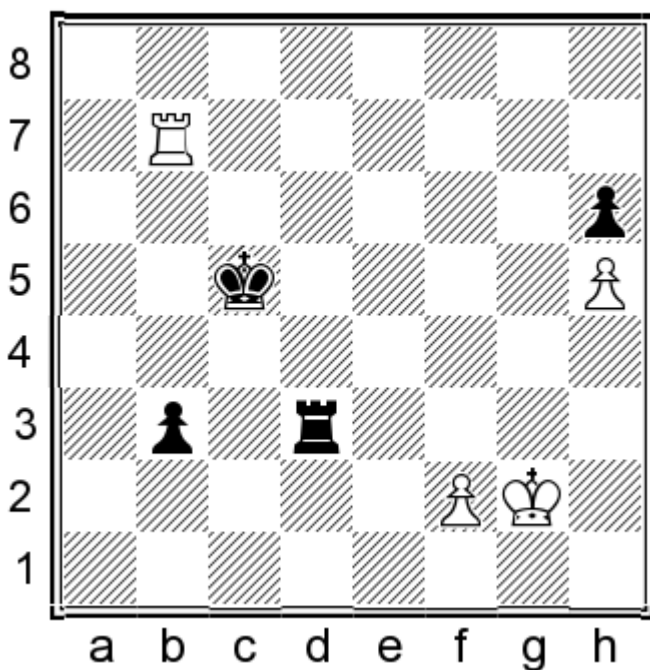
23...Kg4 24.Rb2 Rf4 25.Rb8!

25.Ra2? Rf2+ 26.Rxf2 gxf2 27.Kxf2 Kh3 28.Kg1 g4μ

25...Rf2+ 26.Kg1 Re2 27.Rc8 Rb2 28.Rd8 Re2 29.Rb8 g2 30.Kh2

30.Rb4+ Kf3 31.Rb3+ Re3 32.Rxe3+ Kxe3 33.Kxg2 Kf4 34.Kf2 =

30...Rf2 31.Rb4+ Kh5 32.Rb8 Kh4 33.Rh8+ Kg4 34.Ra8 Rd2 35.Rb8 Kf3 36.Rf8+ Kg4 37.Rb8 Rf2 38.Ra8 Kf3 39.Ra3+ Kg4 40.Ra8 g1=Q+ 41.Kxg1 Kg3 42.Ra1 g4 43.Rb1 Rg2+ 1/2-1/2



1.? =

Show/Hide Solution

1.f4!

1.Kf1 Kc4 2.Ke2 Rd5- +

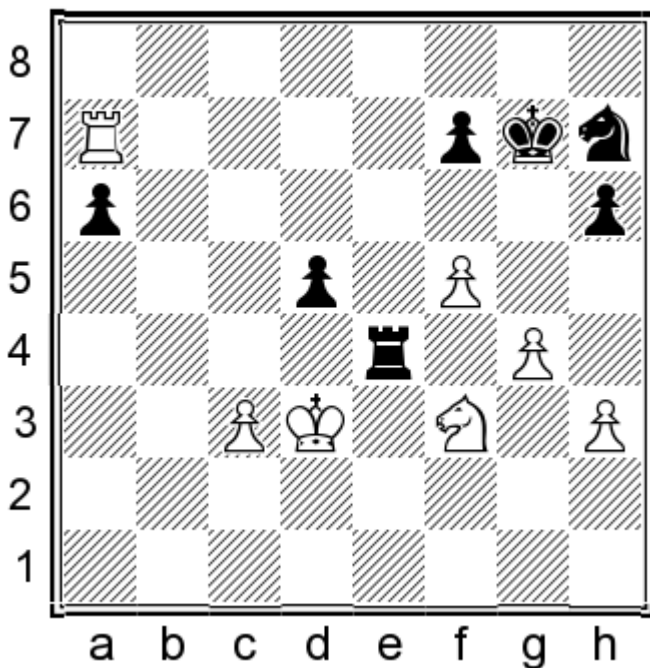
1...Kc4 2.f5

2.Rc7+? Kd4 3.f5 b2 4.Rb7 Kc3 5.f6 Rd7- +

2...Rd5 3.f6 = Rxb5 4.f7 Rf5 5.Kg3

5.Rc7+ Kd4 6.Rb7 Kc3 7.Rc7+ Kb2 8.Kh3 =

5...h5 6.Kh4 Kc3 7.Rc7+ Kd2 8.Rb7 Kc2 9.Rc7+ Kb1 10.Rb7 b2 11.Rc7
 Rxf7 12.Rxf7 Ka2 13.Ra7+ Kb3 14.Rb7+ Kc2 15.Rxb2+ Kxb2 16.Kxh5
 1/2-1/2



1.? +-

Show/Hide Solution

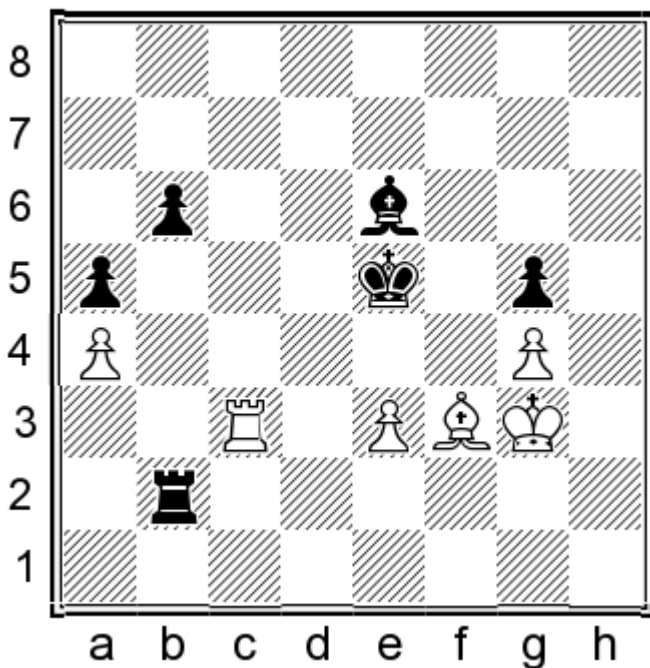
1.c4!

1.Rxa6? Rf4 2.Ne5 (2.Ke3 Re4+ 3.Kd3 Rf4 =) 2...Ng5 3.h4 Ne4 4.Ke3 (4.Ra7 Nc5+ 5.Kd2 Kf6 6.Nxf7 Rxg4 7.Nxh6 Rxh4 =) 4...Rf1 5.Ra7 (5.Rc6 h5 6.gxh5 Rxf5 7.h6+ Kh7 =) 5...Re1+ 6.Kd3 Nf2+ 7.Kd4 Rd1+ 8.Kc5 Kf6! 9.Nxf7 Nxg4²

1...Rxc4

1...Ng5 2.cxd5 Ra4 3.Ne5 +-; 1...Nf6 2.c5 (2.cxd5 Re8 3.d6 Rd8 4.Ne5 Rxd6+ 5.Kc4 +-) 2...a5 3.c6 +-

2.Ne5 Ra4 3.Rxf7+ Kg8 4.f6 Ra3+ 5.Kd4 +- Nxf6 6.Rxf6 Rxh3 7.Kxd5 a5 8.Ra6 a4 9.Rxa4 h5 10.g5 Rg3 11.g6 1-0



1...? -+

Show/Hide Solution

1...Rb3!

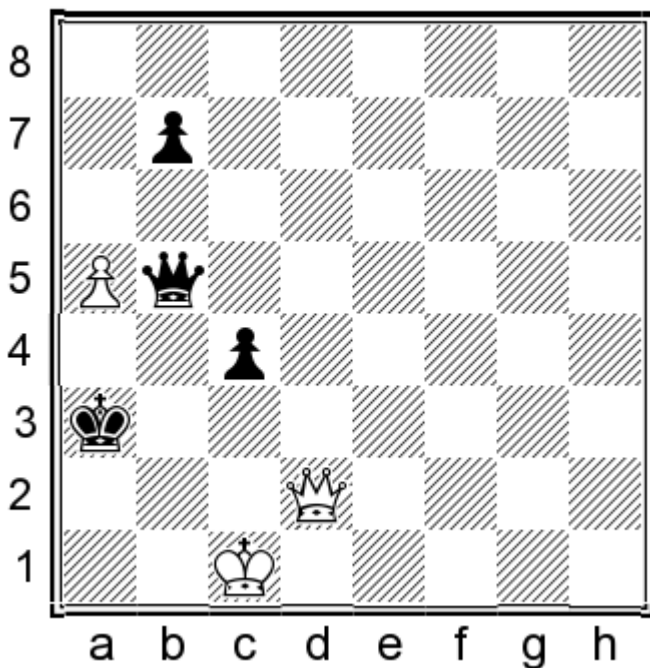
1...Kd6 2.Rc6+ Kd7 3.Rc1 Rb4 4.Be2 Ke7³

2.Rxb3 Bxb3 3.Bc6 Bd1- + 4.Kh3 Kd6 5.Bb5 Kc5 6.Kg3 Kb4 7.e4 Bxa4

7...Bxa4 8.Bxa4 Kxa4 9.e5 Kb5 10.Kf3 a4 11.Ke4 a3 12.e6 Kc6- +

0-1

9. Ostrovskiy, Aleksandr (2430) - Ringoir, Tanguy (2474)
Charlotte, 2021
Q 4/b



1.? =

Show/Hide Solution

1.a6! Qxa6

1...bxa6 2.Qc3+ Ka4 (2...Qb3 3.Qa5+ Qa4 4.Qc3+=) 3.Qa1+ Kb4 4.Qb2+ Kc5 5.Qe5+ Kb6 6.Qd6+ Qc6 7.Qb4+ Ka7 8.Qe7+ Ka8 9.Qf8+=

2.Qc3+ Ka4 3.Qa1+ Kb5 4.Qe5+ Kc6 5.Qe6+ Kc7 6.Qe7+ Kb8 7.Qd8+ Ka7 8.Qd4+ b6 9.Qd7+ Qb7 10.Qa4+ Kb8 11.Qxc4 Qc7 12.Qxc7+ Kxc7 13.Kc2 Kc6 14.Kb2!

14.Kc3?? Kc5 15.Kb3 Kb5- +

14...Kc5

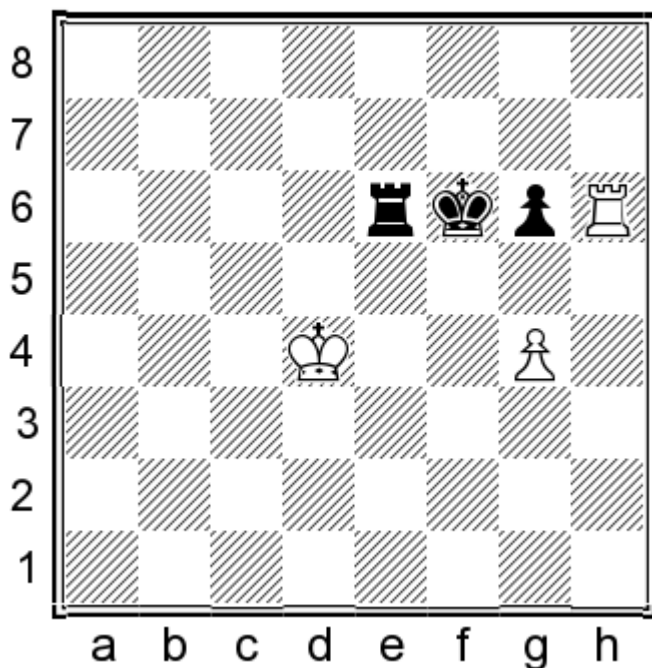
14...Kc5 15.Kc3 =

1/2-1/2

2020 ENDINGS MAZE

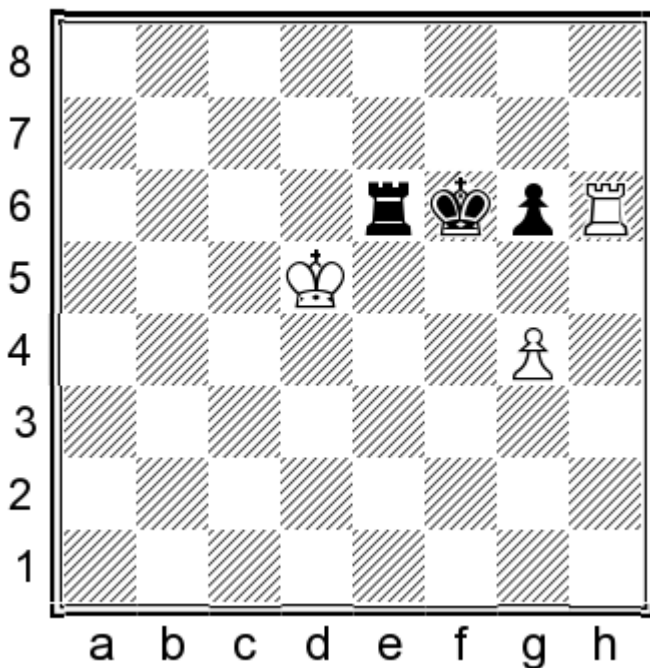
Dear readers, we present to you a selection of six entertaining endings from our latest book - 2020 ENDINGS MAZE. For further reading and studying do check out this highly instructive new release.

Kobalia, Mihail (2614) - Gelfand, Boris (2676)
lichess.org (Internet-blitz), 2020

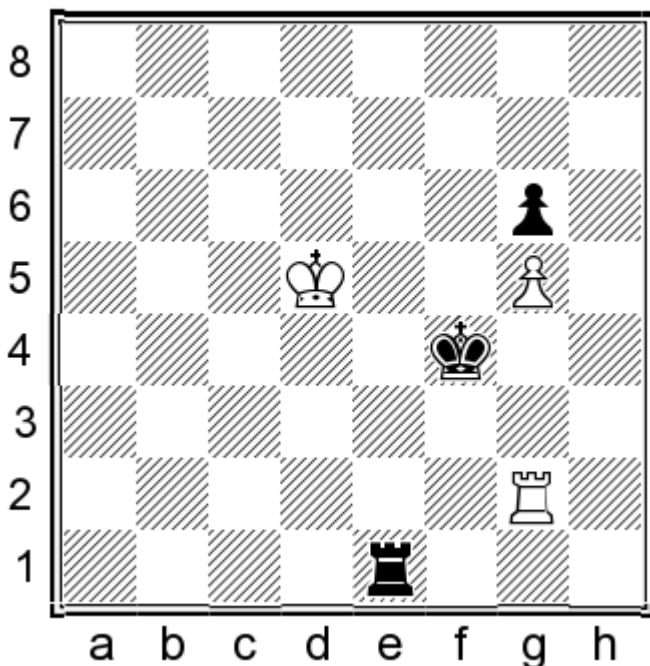


1.Rh1! A truly magnificent move that allows White to secure a draw! White is already preparing defence without the g4-pawn.

1.Kd5?



1...Re1! Black is using the opportunity to seize the 1st rank and prevent White from setting-up his defence. The same defensive idea with the rook on the 2nd rank is not working because the white rook is "too short"! 2.Rh2 Kg5 3.Rg2 Kf4 4.g5

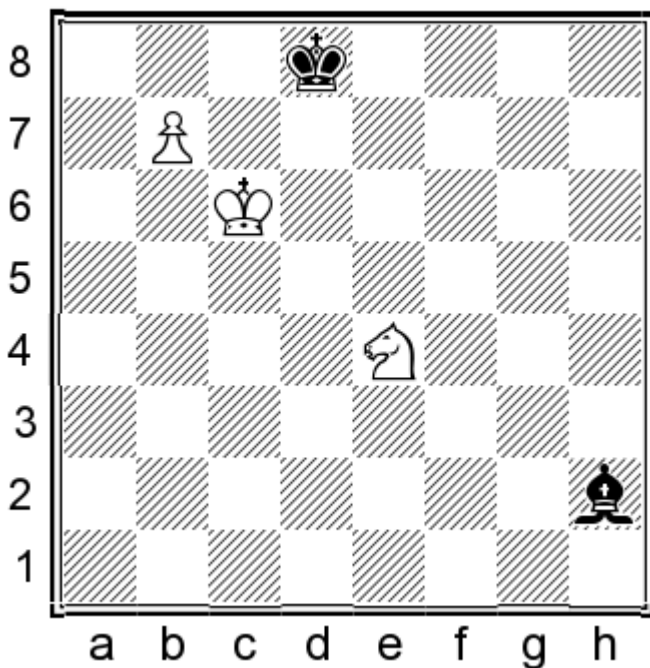


4...Re5+! (4...Kf5? 5.Rf2+! Kxg5 6.Rg2+ Kf5 7.Rf2+ Kg5 8.Rg2+ Kf6 9.Rf2+ Kg7 10.Rg2= Kobalia,Mihail - Gelfand,Boris) 5.Kd4 Rxc5 6.Rf2+ Kg3 7.Rf1 (7.Rf6 Rg4+ 8.Ke3 g5 9.Rg6 Kh3 10.Rh6+ Rh4 11.Rg6 (11.Rf6 Kg3! (11...g4? 12.Kf2 Rh7 (12...Kh2 13.Rg6=) 13.Kg1 Rb7 14.Rf1=) 12.Rf3+ Kg4 13.Rf2 (13.Rf1 Rh3+ 14.Ke2 Rh2+ 15.Ke3 Kh4- +) 13...Rh3+ 14.Ke2 Ra3- +) 11...g4 12.Kf2 Rh8 13.Kg1 Ra8- +) 7...Kh2 8.Ke4 (8.Rf6 Rg1 9.Ke3 g5 10.Kf2 Rg2+ 11.Kf1 g4 12.Rh6+ Kg3 13.Ra6 Rb2- +) 8...Rg4+ 9.Ke5 g5 10.Kf5 Rg2 11.Ra1 g4 12.Ra8 Rg1- +

1...Kg5 2.Rg1 Kf4 3.Rf1+ Kxg4 4.Rg1+ Kf3 5.Kd5 Ra6 6.Ke5 =

Carlsen, Magnus (2863) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2784)
chess24.com (Internet-rapid), 2020

Black draws after some very precise move-by-move planning!



1...Bc7!

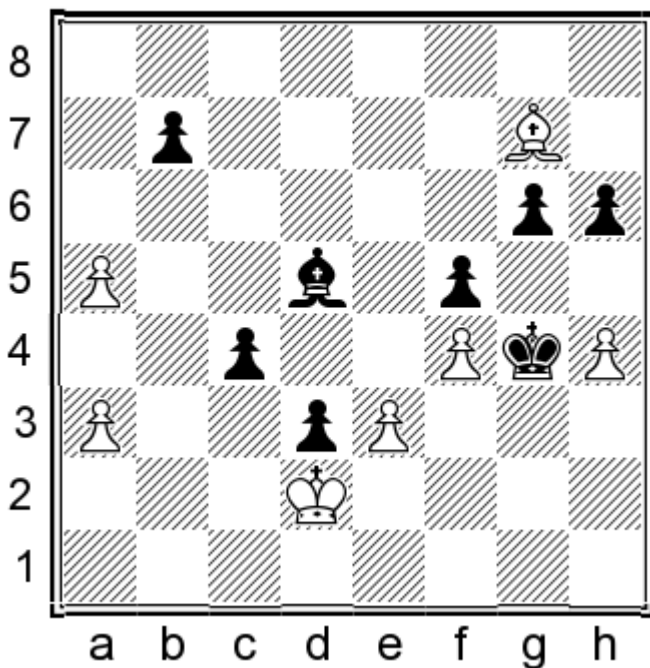
1...Bf4?? 2.Nd6 +-; 1...Bb8?? 2.Nc5 Bh2 (2...Ke7 3.Na6 Ba7 4.Kc7 Bf2 5.Kc8! Bg3 6.Nc7 +-) 3.Ne6+ 1 : 0 Carlsen,Magnus - Nepomniachtchi,Ian

2.Nc5

2.Nf6 Bb8 =

2...Bb8 3.Na6 Bg3 =

Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2778) - So, Wesley (2770)
lichess.org (Internet-rapid), 2020



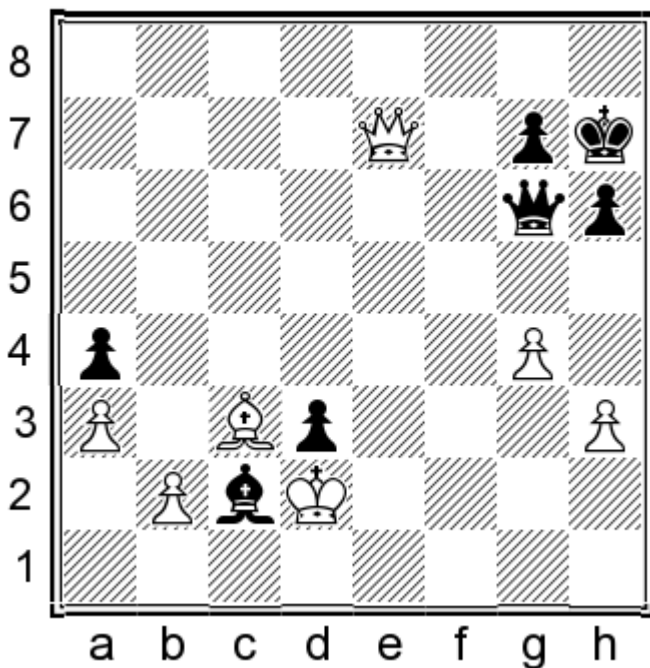
The opposite-coloured bishops endgames are notoriously drawish. In general, one side must have two passed pawns in order to push for a full point. In the diagram position two connected black passers on c4 and d3 are not sufficient for victory. Fortunately, Black can create one more passed pawn!

1...g5!! White resigned here.

1...g5 2.fxg5 (2.hxg5 h5) 2...h5! 3.Bf6 Kxh4 4.g6+ Kg4 5.g7 h4- +

0-1

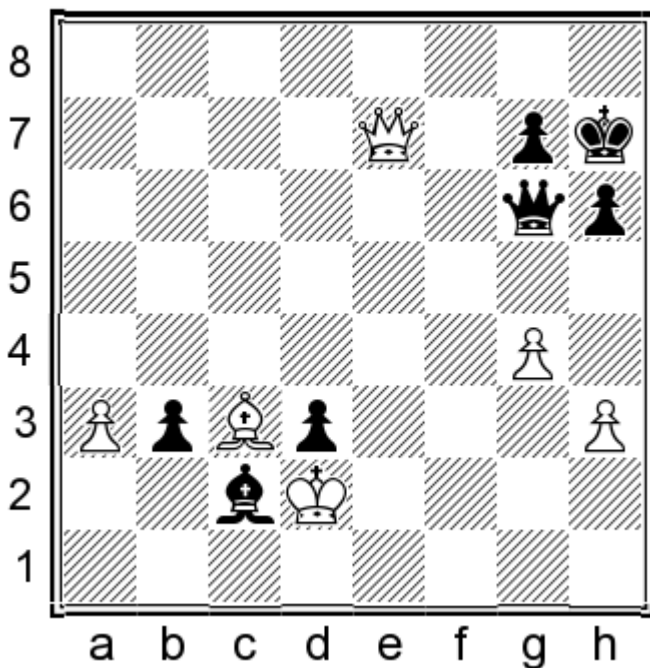
Aronian, Levon (2778) - Vidit, Santosh Gujrathi (2636)
chess.com (Internet-rapid), 2020



Black is under the impression that his a4-pawn blocks the queenside. However, White is able to execute a powerful pawn break, and win this highly instructive queen endgame with the opposite-coloured bishops on the board!

1.b4!! axb3

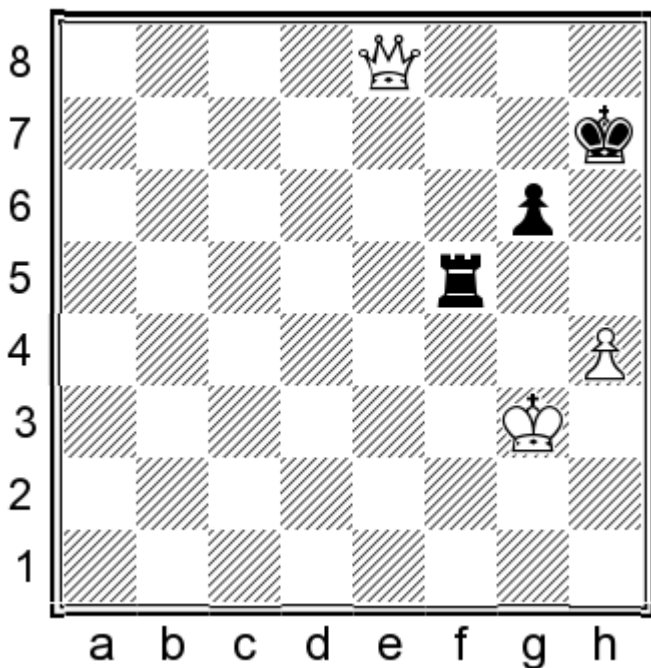
1...Bb3 2.b5 Bd5 3.b6 +-



2.Bb2! The black bishop is entrapped, while his queen is committed to defence of the g7 point. Therefore, White's a-pawn can freely march to promotion!

2...h5 3.g5 h4 4.a4 Kg8 5.a5 Kh7 6.a6 Bd1 7.Kxd1 d2 8.Qxg7+! Qxg7 9.Bxg7 Kxg7 10.Kxd2 1-0

Jones, Gawain C B (2679) - Perez Ponsa, Federico (2559)
Pro Chess League (Internet-rapid), 2020



Without the white pawn on the board the position would be a theoretical draw. The white king would be cut off along the 5th rank and f-file. However, the position is winning for White because he can invade the g8-square with his queen after the sacrifice of the h-pawn, and as a result, the black king will be chased away from the corner!

1.h5! Rxh5

1...gxh5 2.Kh4 +-; 1...Rg5+ 2.Kf4 Rf5+ 3.Ke3 Rxh5 4.Qf7+ Kh6 (4...Kh8 5.Qxg6 Re5+ (5...Rh3+ 6.Kd4 Rh4+ 7.Ke5 +-) 6.Kf4 +-) 5.Qg8 +-

2.Qf7+! White must expel the black king from the corner!

White cannot win the position that ensues after 2.Kf4 Rf5+ 3.Ke4 Kg7 =

2...Kh6 3.Qg8! Black cannot stop the white king's invasion!

3...Rg5+

3...Rf5?? 4.Qh8+ Kg5 5.Qh4#

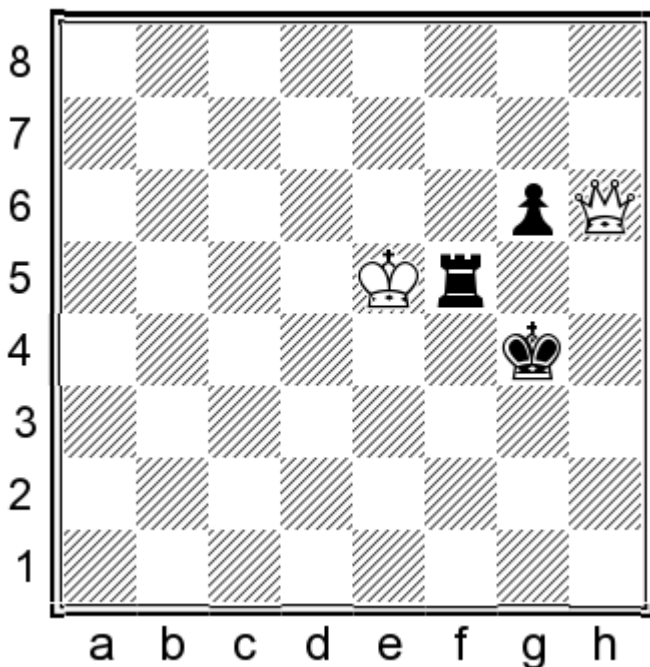
4.Kf4 Rf5+ 5.Ke4 - and the first phase is finished. Next White must force the black rook to abandon the f5-square and allow the white king to penetrate deep into the Black's territory. Also, White must proceed with great caution and control the position of the black king and rook once the pawn comes to g5.

5...Kg5 6.Qg7

White saves a few tempi after 6.Qh8 see 10.Ke4 in main line.

6...Kh5 7.Qh8+ Kg5 8.Ke3 Rf7 9.Kd4 Rf5 10.Ke4 Rf7

White must be very careful in case of 10...Kg4 11.Qh6 Rf6 12.Ke5 Rf5+

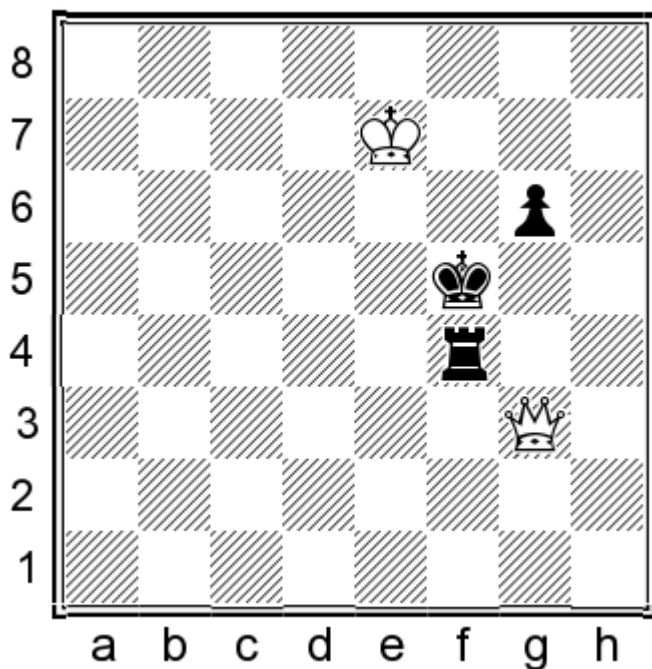


13.Kd6! A really important subtlety! White leaves the e6-square free for his queen, so he could slowly transfer the king behind the black g-pawn with some skilful manoeuvring and limiting! (Quite unexpected danger arises after 13.Ke6? g5 and White cannot win. Black has a firm outpost for the rook on f4, and by moving his king to h4 and g4 he should hold the position. 14.Qh8 Rf4 15.Ke5 Rf5+ 16.Ke4 Rf4+ 17.Ke3 Rc4 18.Qg8 Rf4 19.Qc8+ Kh4 20.Qh8+ Kg4 21.Qh2 Re4+! (21...Rf3+ 22.Ke2 Rf4=) 22.Kf2 Rf4+ 23.Kg2 Kf5= The black rook controls the 4th rank via f4 and h4.) 13...g5 14.Qe6 Kf4 15.Qd7 Re5 16.Qf7+ Rf5 17.Qh7 Kg4 18.Qd7 Kf4 19.Ke6 Kg4 (19...Re5+ 20.Kf6+-) 20.Qd1+ Rf3 21.Ke5 Kg3 22.Qg1+ Kh4 23.Qh2+ Kg4 24.Qg2+ Rg3 25.Qe2+ Kh3 26.Kf5 g4 27.Kg5 Rg2 (27...Rf3 28.Qe1+-) 28.Qe5 Rg1 29.Qf4 Rg2 30.Kh5 Rg3 (30...Rg1 31.Qf2 Rg3 32.Kg5+-) 31.Qf2+-

11.Ke5 Re7+ 12.Kd6 Rf7 13.Ke6 Rf5 14.Qh1 Rf6+ 15.Ke7 Rf5 16.Qh2 Rf4

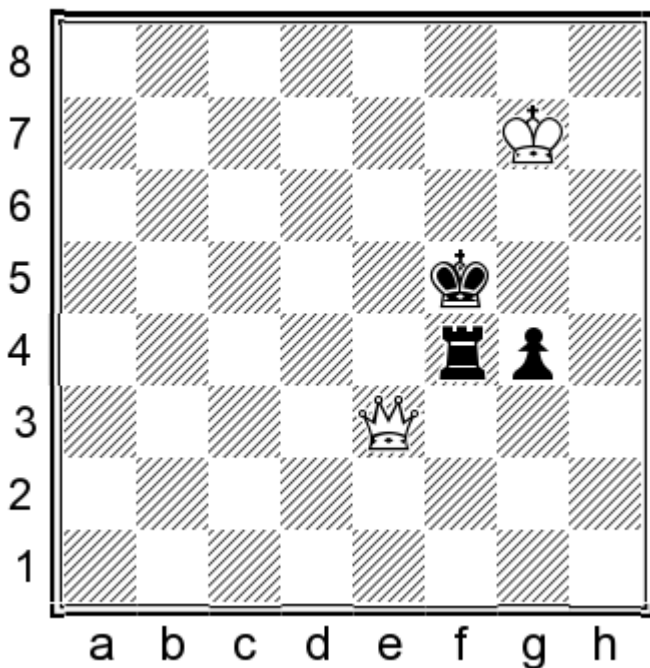
Black may use a familiar motif 16...Kg4 17.Qh6 g5 18.Qe6 Kf4 19.Qd7 Kg4 (Black loses a pawn after 19...g4 20.Ke6 Re5+ 21.Kf6 Re4 22.Qc7+ Kf3 23.Kf5+-) 20.Kd6! (20.Ke6? Rf4=) 20...Kf4 21.Ke6+-

17.Qg3+ Kf5



18.Kf7 White accomplished the goal, his king got behind the black pawn.

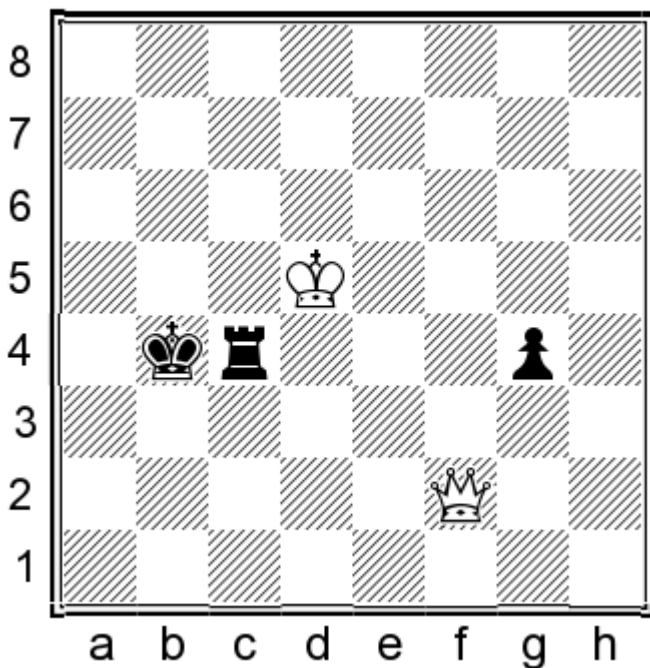
18...g5 19.Kg7 g4 20.Qd3+ Kg5 21.Qe3 Kf5



22.Kh6 Black is forced to step away from the pawn. Conversion is not too difficult anymore.

22...Re4 23.Qf2+ Ke5 24.Kg5 In few more moves, Black will be forced to abandon the 4th rank.

24...Kd5 25.Kf5 Rd4 26.Qc2 Rc4 27.Qg2+ Kc5 28.Ke5 Kb4 29.Qb2+ Kc5 30.Qf2+ Kb4 31.Kd5

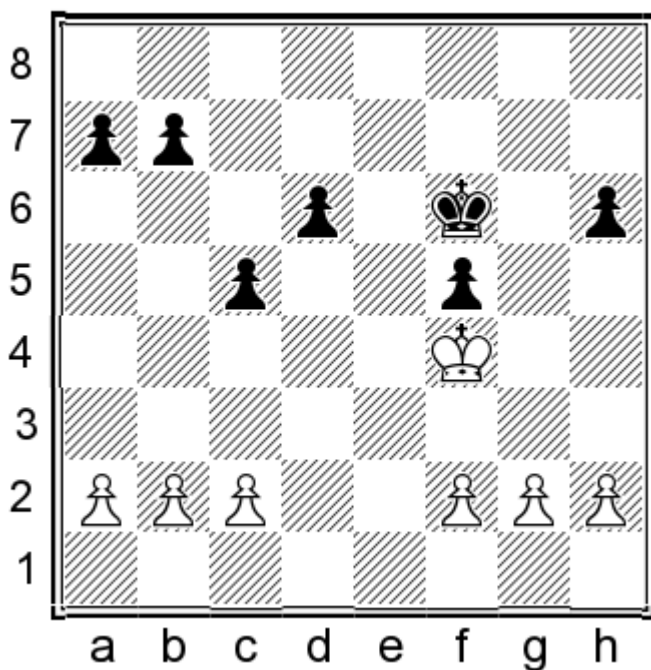
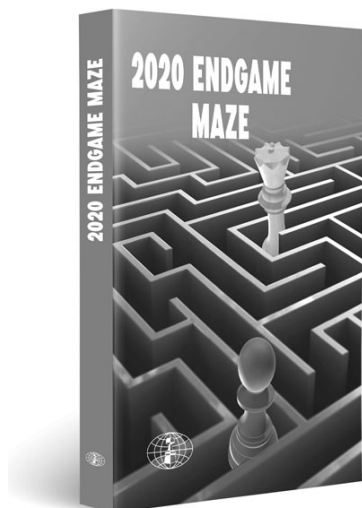


31...Rc3

31...Kb3 32.Qe2 Rb4 (32...Ra4 33.Qd1+ Ka3 34.Kc5 +-) 33.Kc5 Ra4
 34.Qd1+ Ka3 35.Kb5 Rb4+ 36.Ka5 The rook must go away from his
 monarch, thus becoming an obvious target. 36...Rb7 (36...Rf4 37.Qd3+ Kb2
 38.Qd2+ +-) 37.Qa1+ Kb3 38.Qb1+ +-

32.Qd4+ Kb3 33.Qxg4 +-

Kovalev, Vladislav (2648) - Ponkratov, Pavel (2631)
 lichess.org (Internet-blitz), 2020

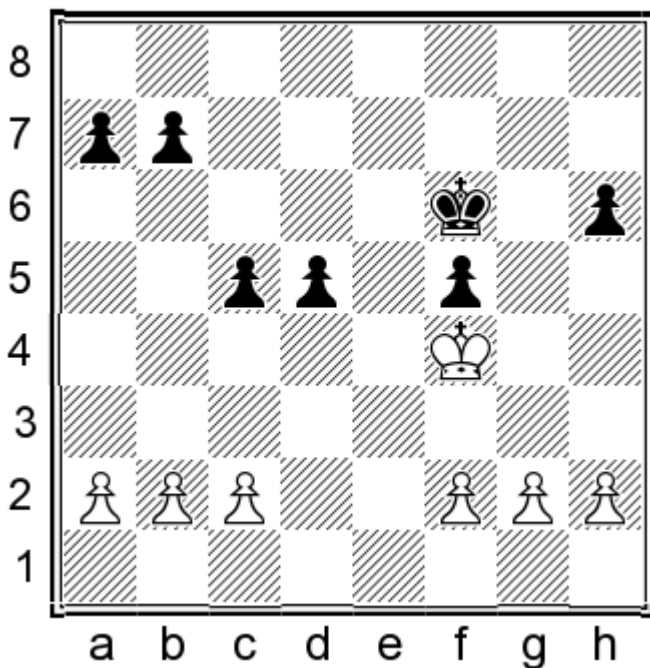


According to the general principles of pawn endings White should have some advantage. White has a better king and will create a distant passer. However, since pawns endings are extremely concrete it is possible to calculate all the possible variations till the end. In actual fact, Black can secure a draw with precise play!

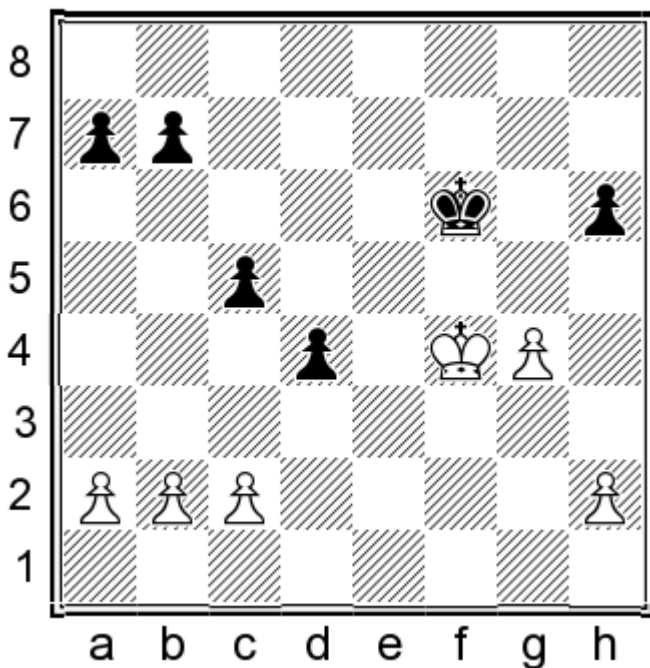
1...b5! It is of great importance to start advancing the pawns and prevent the opponent from setting a blockade. Black is holding the balance by means of

active play and various tactical motifs.

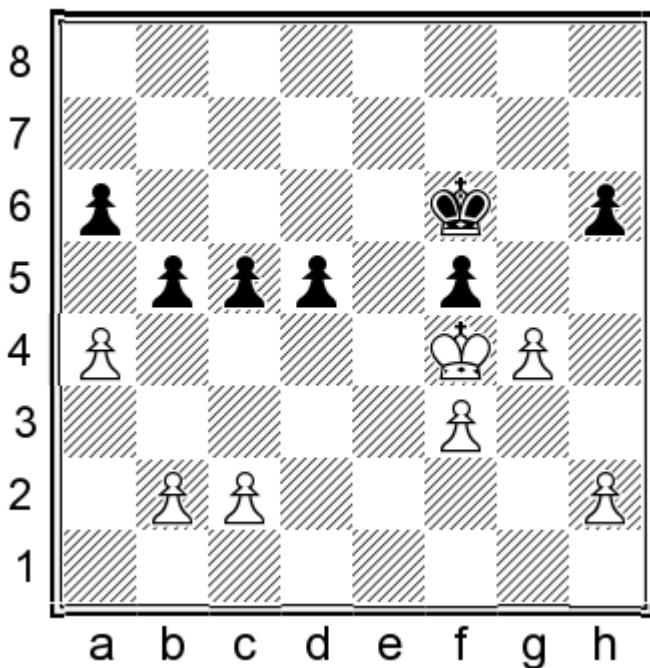
Careless pawn push 1...d5?



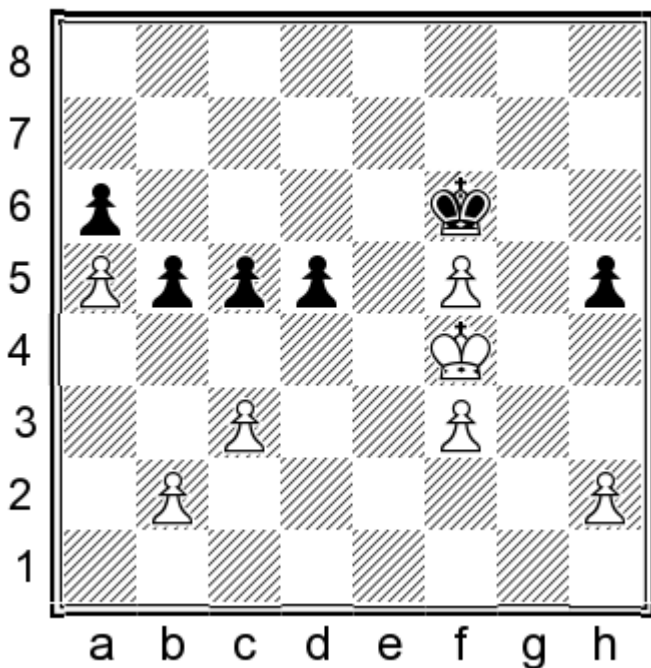
would allow White counterplay on the queenside! 2.a4! (2.f3? d4? (Black misses the opportunity to return to the position from main variation 2...b5!) 3.b3! (3.a4 c4 = ; 3.g4 fxg4 4.fxg4



4...c4! (4...b5 5.h4 +- a5 6.Ke4 Ke6 7.b3 Kd6 8.g5 h5 9.Kf5 a4 10.Ke4 axb3 11.axb3 Ke6 12.b4 cxb4 1 : 0 Kovalev,Vladislav - Ponkratov,Pavel) 5.h4 (5.Ke4 Kg5 6.Kxd4 Kxg4 7.Kxc4 Kh3 =) 5...d3 6.cxd3 cxd3 7.Ke3 Ke5 8.Kxd3 Kf4 9.g5 hxg5 10.h5 (10.hxg5 Kxg5 11.Ke4 Kf6 12.Kd5 Ke7 =) 10...Kf5! 11.Ke3 g4 12.h6 Kg6 13.Kf4 Kxh6 14.Kxg4 Kg6 =) 3...b5 (3...h5 4.a4 +-) 4.g4 fxg4 5.fxg4 c4 6.h4 +- and the white king reaches the queenside.) 2...b6 3.f3 a6 4.g4 b5



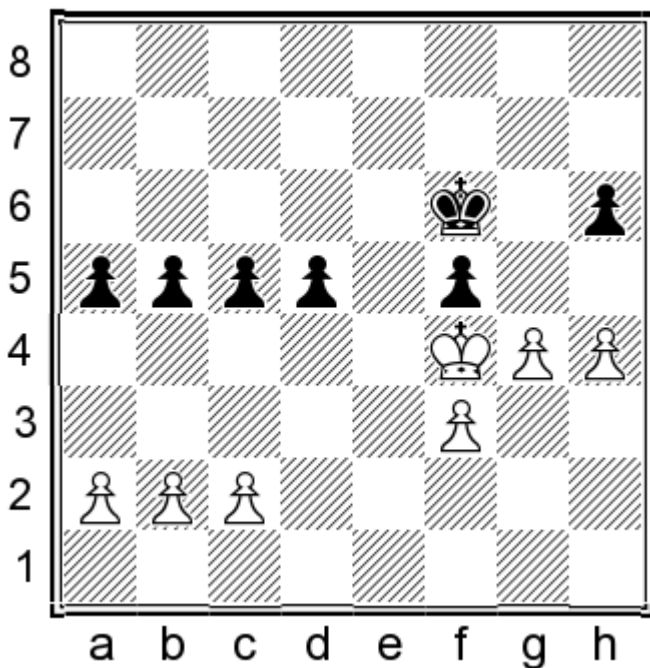
(4...fxg4 5.fxg4 +-) 5.a5! White must keep as many pawns on the queenside as possible! Eventually, the far advanced a5-pawn may prove to be of great value! 5...Ke6 (5...b4 6.gxf5 h5 7.h4 c4 8.c3 b3 9.Ke3 Kxf5 10.Kd4 Kf4 11.Kxd5 Kg3 12.f4! Kxh4 (12...Kxf4 13.Kc5! +-) 13.f5 +-) 6.gxf5+ Kf6 7.c3 h5



8.h4 Black is now forced to make pawn move, thus allowing the white king to reach the queenside! 8...c4 9.Ke3 Kxf5 (9...Ke5 10.f6! +-) 10.Kd4 Kf4 11.Kxd5 Kg3 12.f4! Deflection that slows down the black king! 12...Kxf4 (12...Kxh4 13.f5 Kg5 14.Ke5 h4 15.f6 h3 16.f7 h2 17.f8=Q h1=Q 18.Qg8+ and Black loses his queen.) 13.Kc5 +-

2.f3 d5 3.g4 a5 4.h4

4.c3 b4 5.gxf5 bxc3 6.bxc3 h5 7.h4 a4 8.a3 c4! 9.Ke3 Kxf5 10.Kd4 Kf4 11.Kxd5 Kxf3 12.Kxc4 Kg4 = (12...Kg3 =) 4.gxf5 h5 5.h4 b4 6.a4 (6.b3 c4 7.bxc4 dxc4 8.Ke4 a4 9.Kd4 b3 10.cxb3 axb3 11.axb3 cxb3 12.Kc3 Kxf5 =) 6...bxa3 7.bxa3 a4 8.c3 c4 9.Ke3 Kxf5 10.Kd4 Kf4 11.Kxd5 Kxf3 12.Kxc4 Kg3 =



4...b4! 5.b3 c4 6.bxc4 White cannot remain passive and observe developments on the queenside.

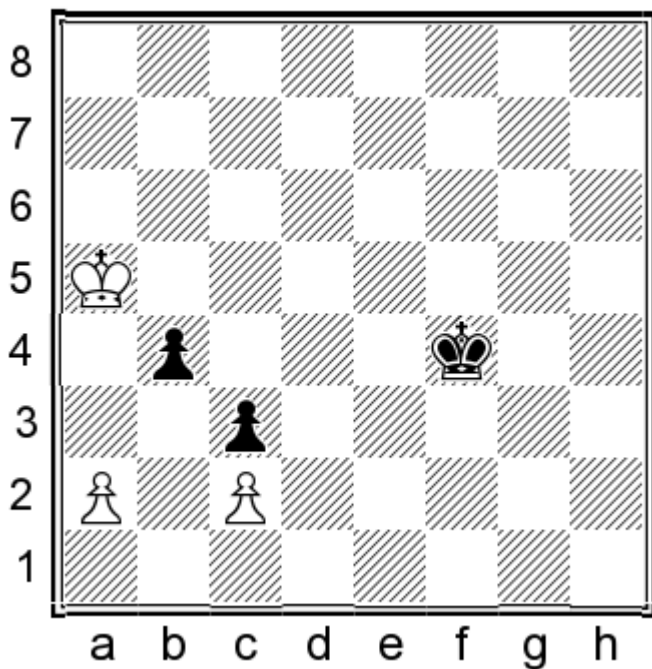
6.h5? fxg4 7.fxg4 c3!- +

6...dxc4 7.Ke3 fxg4 8.fxg4 Ke5 9.g5 hxg5

Black holds after 9...h5 =

10.hxg5 a4! Black is threatening with a pawnbreak so a draw is inevitable.

Black secures a draw in a slightly more complicated way after: 10...c3 11.Kd3 Kf5 12.Kc4 Kxg5 13.Kb5 Kf4 14.Kxa5



14...b3!! 15.axb3 Ke3 =

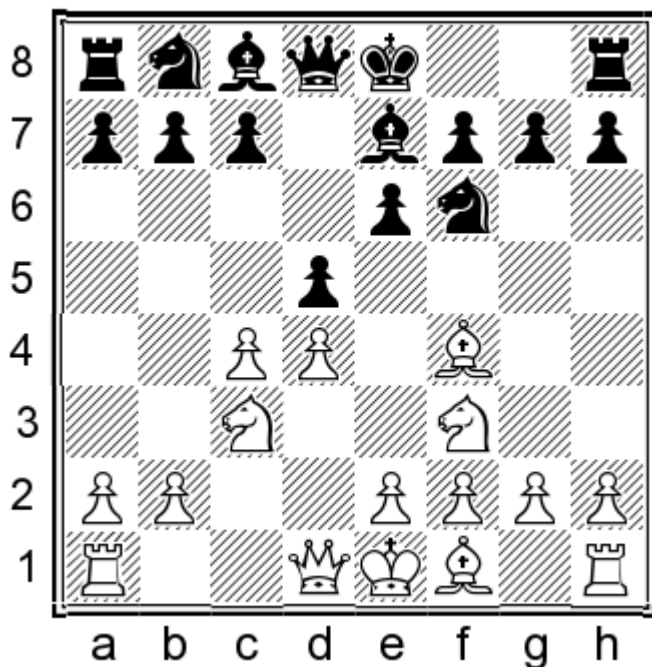
11.g6 Kf6 12.Kd4 b3 13.exb3 cxb3 14.axb3 axb3 15.Kc3 =

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS

By ICCF CCM Vladimir Tašić

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED [D 37]

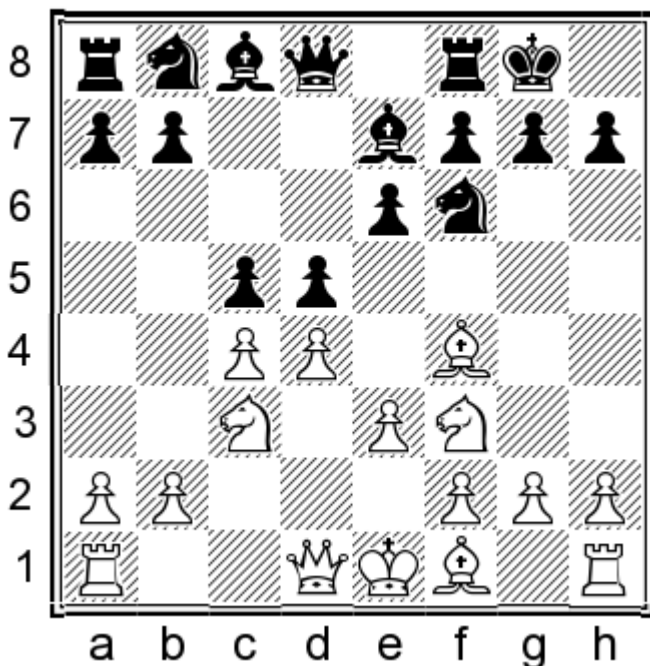
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bf4



CHAPTER 1

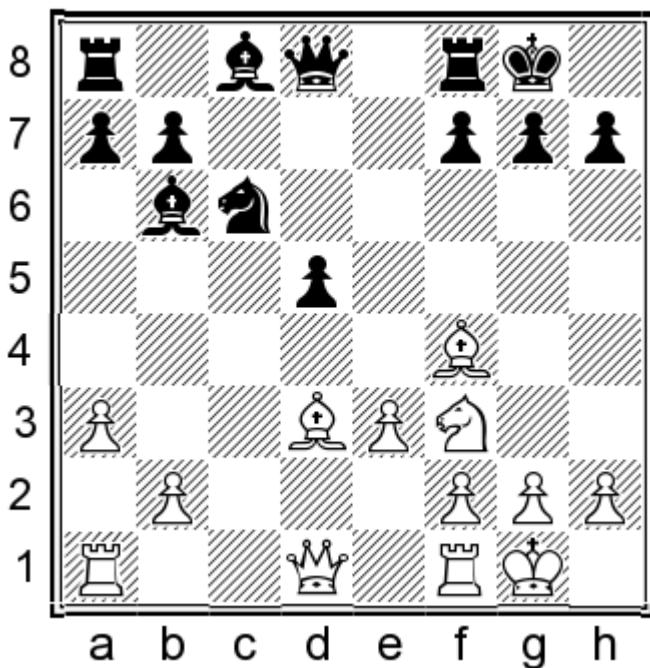
5.Bf4/6...c5

5...O-O 6.e3 c5

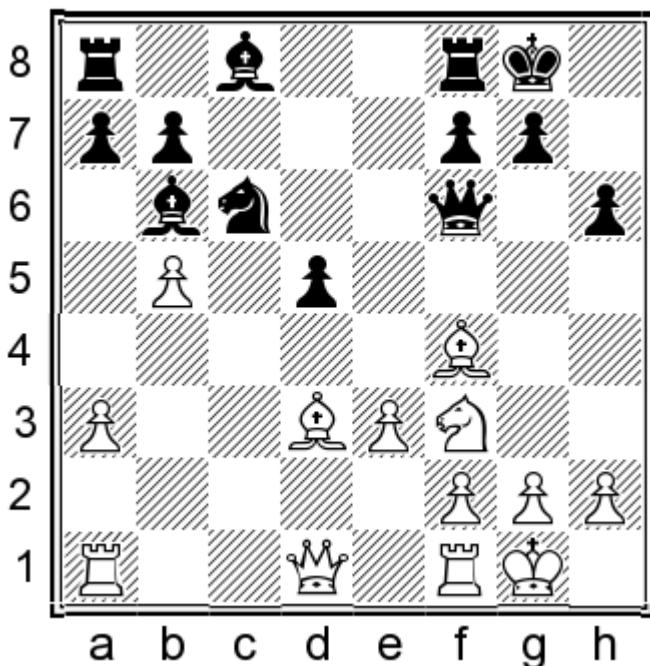


7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Qc2

The exchange of pawns on d5 does not yield much to White. 8.cxd5 Nxd5 (8...exd5!? This move is also possible, leading to typical IQP position with slightly better chances for White. Of course, such positions are not to everyone's liking. 9.Be2 Nc6 10.O-O Be6 11.Rc1 Rc8 12.a3 (White should be very careful: 12.Nxd5?? Qxd5 13.Qxd5 Nxd5 14.Rxc5 Nxf4 15.exf4 Nd4!-+)) 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.a3 Nc6 11.Bd3 Bb6 12.O-O



12...Qf6!? Quite an interesting move with important implications. The black queen is attacking the b2-pawn and indirectly putting pressure on the f4-bishop. Also, Black is threatening the bishop trade after Bf5, neutralising White's light-square bishop. 13.b4 h6 14.b5



What else? (On 14.Bc2 Bf5; or 14.Re1 d4) 14...Nd4! Indirectly attacking the f4-bishop. 15.Nxd4 Bxd4 16.Rb1 Be5 17.Bxe5 Qxe5 = Valente,Diogo - Bogatyrev,Igor, corr 2020

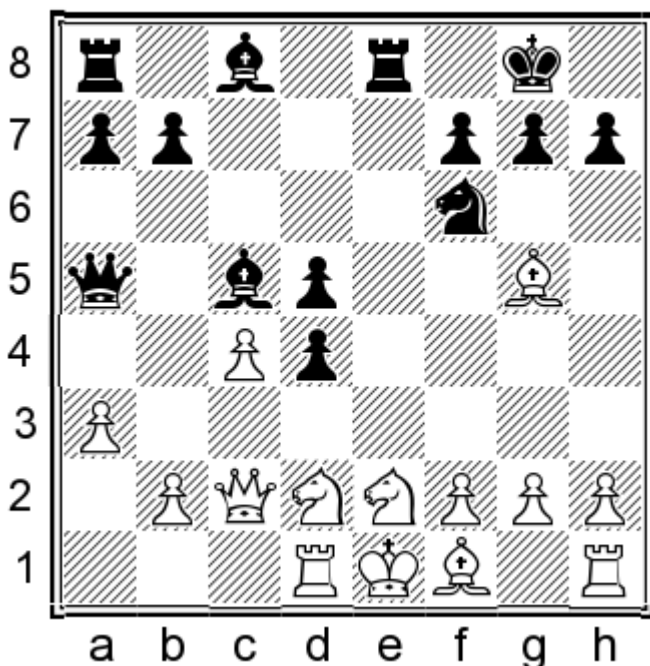
8.a3 Nc6 9.Qc2 Transposing into 8.Qc2 variation.

8...Nc6

8...Bb4!? 9.Be2 (9.Bd3 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Qa5 = leading to game continuation.; 9.a3!? grants White a slight, but longlasting advantage. 9...Qa5 (Black can proceed without queen trade 9...Bxc3+ 10.Qxc3 b6!?) 10.Rc1 Bxc3+ 11.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 12.Rxc3²) 9...dxc4 10.Bxc4 Qa5 11.Rc1 Nbd7 12.O-O Bxc3 13.Qxc3 Qxc3 14.Rxc3 Nb6 Black is forcing trades and White cannot make use of his bishop pair: 15.Be2 Nfd5 16.Rcc1 Nxf4 17.exf4 Nd5 = Volek,Stanislav - Kolpak,Sergey, corr 2020

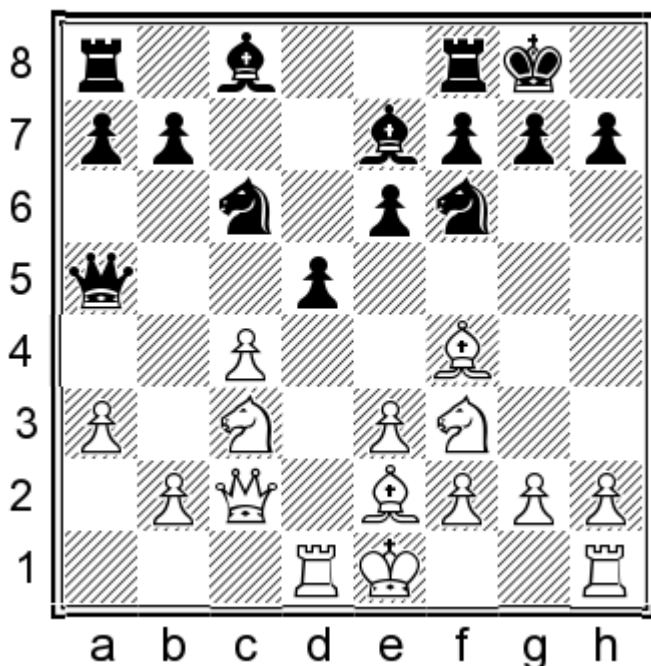
9.a3 Qa5 10.Rd1 Be7 The most common continuation that sidesteps the attack on the b4-bishop, and the queen along the c-file.

A more recent continuation is 10...Re8!? 11.Nd2 (Now it becomes obvious why the piece capture is not so promising: 11.b4? Nxb4 12.axb4 Bxb4 13.Be5 Ne4 14.Rc1 f6! 15.Bd3 (15.Bd4 e5- +) 15...fxe5 16.Bxe4 dxe4 17.Ng5 Bxc3+ 18.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 19.Rxc3 b6- +) 11...e5 12.Bg5 Black proceeds in the most aggressive manner thanks to the powerful rook on the e-file. 12...Nd4TM 13.Qb1 (13.exd4? Piece capture should be avoided, as follows: 13...exd4+



(14.Be2 dxc3 15.Nb3 (15.Bxf6 cxd2+ 16.Rxd2 Rxe2+! 17.Kxe2 gxf6- +) 15...Qa4 16.Bxf6 Bg4! 17.f3 Rxe2+!- +) 14...Ng4!!- + A brilliant attack! 15.Bh4 d3 16.Qb3 Bf5! 17.Qb5 Unfortunately, even the trade of queens does not favour White. (17.Bg3 dxc4 18.Qxc4 Qb6 19.Qf4 Qb5! 20.Qc4 dxe2 21.Bxe2 Rxe2+ 22.Qxe2 Re8- + ; 17.h3 dxc4 18.Qxc4 Ne5 19.b4 Qxa3 20.Qxc5 dxe2- +) 17...dxe2!! 18.Qxa5 Bxf2+ 19.Bxf2 exd1=Q+ 20.Kxd1 Nxf2+ 21.Kc1 Re1#) 13...Bf5 14.Bd3 Bxd3 15.Qxd3 Ne4! The principled decision! White did not castle, while the black queen is ideally positioned pinning at least one of the white knights. 16.Nxd5 (16.b4? Qxa3 17.Ndb1 Qxb4- + ; 16.Ncxe4 dxe4 17.Qxe4 Qb6 18.Rb1 (18.b4 Bf8 19.Qd3 Ne6©) 18...h6 19.Bh4 g5 20.b4 Bf8 21.Bg3 Rad8 22.exd4 exd4 23.Be5 Bg7 24.Nf3 Bxe5 25.Nxe5 Qc7 26.O-O Rxe5 27.Qd3 b6 = Rheinstaedtler,Klaus - Morcin,Tom, corr 2018/19) 16...Nxg5 17.b4 Qd8 18.bxc5 Nde6 19.Nb3 (The following rapid duel between two Chinese stars caught my attention: 19.h4 Nxc5 20.Qf5 Nge6 21.Nf3 f6 (Position with mutual chances arises after 21...Qa5+) 22.h5 h6? Black unnecessarily weakened light squares around his king which allowed White to launch attack on the black king: 23.O-O Qc8 24.Qg6 Nd7 25.Nh4 Nef8 26.Qg4 Kh8 27.Nf5 Ne6 28.Nde7 Qc7 29.Ng6+ Kh7 30.Nxg7! 1 : 0 Ding,Liren 2791 - Wang,Hao 2763, chess.com (Internet-rapid) 2020) 19...Nxc5 20.Nxc5 Qa5+ 21.Qc3 Qxc5 22.O-O = Williamson,Dawn - Trofimov,Vladimir, corr 2019

11.Be2



11...Ne4!? Black is trying to create a certain pawn formation on the queenside, so White is well-advised to gain some piece activity in the centre.

11...dxc4?! If Black releases the tension in the centre in order to activate his light-square bishop he will automatically end up in worse position. 12.Bxc4 e5 13.Bg3 Bg4 14.O-O Rac8 15.h3 Bh5 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.Rxd5 Bg6 18.e4f White obtained initiative in Bunk,Wolfgang - Trofimov,Vladimir, corr 2019

12.cxd5 Nxc3 13.Qxc3

13.bxc3 White can capture with the pawn as well, but Black can successfully defend himself with the IQP on d5, as in 13...exd5 14.O-O Be6 15.a4 Qc5 16.Qb1 b6 17.Nd4 Bf6 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.c4 d4 20.Qe4 e5 White tried to organise attack on the black king by means of piece sacrifice: 21.Bd3 (21.Bg3 ∞) 21...exf4 22.exd4 Nxd4 23.Qxh7+ Kf7 24.Rfe1 Be5 25.Be4 Rad8 26.Qg6+ White was content with the perpetual check in Ivanov,Viktor Nikolaevich - Weber,Karlheinz, corr 2020

13...Qxc3+ 14.bxc3 exd5 15.Rxd5 Bxa3 16.Nd4 a5 17.Kd2 a4 18.Kc2 Be7 19.Bf3 Ra6 20.Ra1 a3 ∞ Bucek,Jiri - Kovacs,Arthur, corr 2018

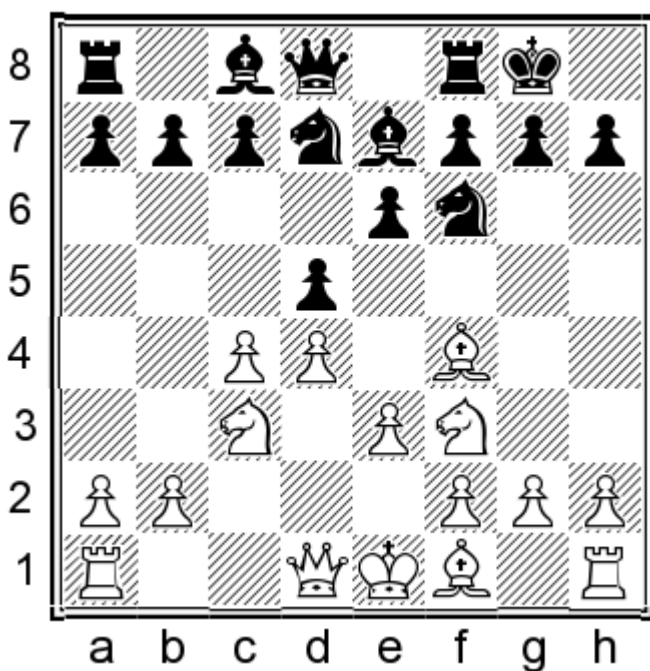
DEVELOPMENT OF OPENING THEORY

It is well known that correspondence chess players invest a lot of energy in their opening preparations. In the pre-engine era, it was of upmost importance to spend days focused on the analysis in order to discover each and every subtlety in certain line or variation. With the emergence of modern engines and databases all the necessary information became available to a much wider chess audience. As a result, the level of play got much higher and deeper in every aspect.

CHAPTER 2

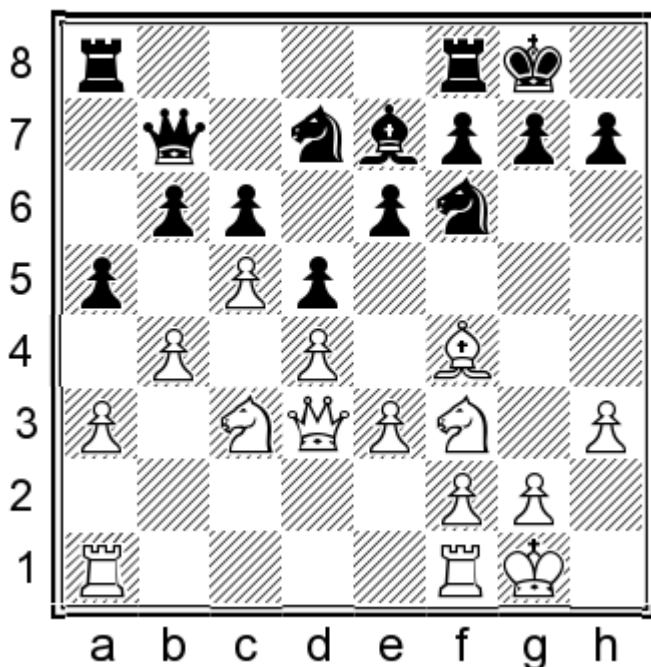
5.Bf4/6...Nbd7

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bf4 O-O 6.e3 Nbd7



7.c5 Nh5 Black managed to block the centre and now is intending to get rid of White's dark-square bishop. On his part, White is trying to exploit the "bad" black dark-squared bishop, and the outpost on e5. Also, he is planning to execute a pawn storm on the queenside. At the same time, Black is trying to keep the situation under control and open the position so his bishop pair could do some damage.

7...c6 An interesting position arises even if the white dark-square bishop remains on the board. In that case the play continues on the queenside. 8.h3 (8.Bd3 b6 9.b4 a5 10.a3 Ba6 11.O-O Qc8! The queen will be placed on b7, keeping an eye on the b-file. Also, Black is hoping to trade both rooks on the a-file. White cannot easily prevent such course of action. 12.h3 Qb7 13.Qc2 Bxd3 14.Qxd3



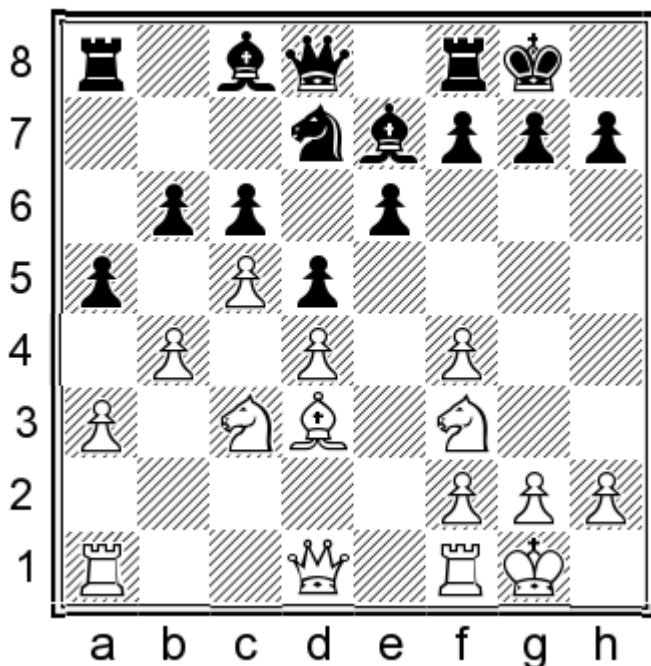
14...Ra7! 15.Rab1 (15.cxb6 Nxb6 16.b5 Nc4 17.a4 ∞; 15.Rfb1 Rfa8 Black is threatening to take the pawn on b4 and open the file. How can White proceed and improve his position? 16.Qd1 The queen must protect the a1-rook, so Black can timely transfer both knights on the kingside and exchange White's strong dark-square bishop. 16...h6 17.Bg3 Nh5 18.Be5 Nhf6 19.Bh2 axb4 20.axb4 ∞ Wojcik, Wieslaw - Conde Poderoso, Antonio, corr 2020) 15...axb4 16.axb4 Rfa8 17.Nd2 b5 18.Nb3 Bd8 = with equal position, Ebner, Johann - Osterburg, Klaus-Juergen, corr 2020) 8...b6 9.b4 a5 10.a3 Ba6 11.Bxa6 Rxa6 12.O-O Qa8 The idea is a familiar one - the queen reaches b7 via c8. Black is trying to force White to show his intentions and release the tension on the a-file. 13.Rb1 axb4 14.axb4 Qb7 15.Qc2 Rfa8 16.Nd2 Ra3 17.Rfc1 b5 ∞ Latronico, Nicola - Kuiper, Jacques, corr 2019/20

8.Bd3 Nxf4 9.exf4 c6

9...b6 leading to the main variation. 10.b4 (10.c6?! Pushing the pawn right away is not too good. Black will trade the h7 for the c6 pawn, and obtain

counter-play and control in the centre. Also, Black will be in possession of the bishop pair. 10...Nb8 11.Qc2 Nxc6 12.Bxh7+ Kh8 13.Bd3 Nb4 14.Qd2 c5 ∞ The position is unclear, but Black has the bishop pair and central majority. Only Black can push for a win in this position.) 10...a5 11.a3 (11.c6? Bxb4) 11...c6 12.O-O Ba6

10.O-O b6 11.b4 a5 12.a3



12...Ba6 The main move in this position. Black is trading his undeveloped light-square bishop for its powerful counterpart. Also, the black major pieces are now connected allowing Black to engage play along the a and b-files.

12...Qc7 leads to the main line after 13.g3 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Rxa6 15.Qe2 and you will see how White managed to develop an attack on the kingside and punish Black's inactivity along the a-file. 15...Raa8 16.Rfb1 Rfb8 17.Kg2 Bf6 18.Na4 axb4! After the opening of the a-file Black has equal chances. (18...b5?! 19.Nb2 Ra7 20.Qd1 a4? The key mistake on Black's part. White now focuses on the kingside, and with the king already on g2 he has an extra tempo. Obviously, White underestimated the importance of the a-file in fight for equality. He wanted to keep the position closed and that proved to be extremely costly. 21.Nd3 g6 22.g4 Bg7 23.Qe2 Nf6 24.h3 Rf8 25.Rh1 → Vertiz Gutierrez,Pedro - Salcedo Mederos,Pablo, corr 2020) 19.axb4 h6 20.h4 Qc8 21.Qc2 Ra6 ∞

13.Bxa6

13.Qe2 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 Qc7 15.g3 Ra7

13...Rxa6 14.Qe2 Ra7

14...Ra8 Even though Black loses a tempo with his rook, White cannot easily punish him. Several correspondence games prove that.

15.b5

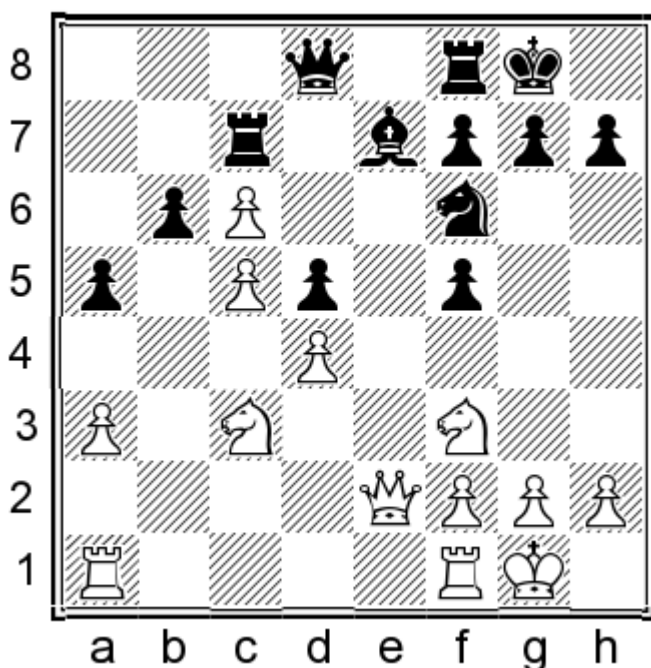
White tried with the rook on c1, but if Black manages to regroup on the a and b-file White will not be in position to endanger the c6-pawn. 15.Rfc1 Bf6 16.Rab1 axb4 17.axb4 Qa8 18.Qd1 bxc5 19.bxc5 Rb8 = Coyne,David - Brasier,John, corr 2016/17

15...Rc7

15...cxb5? 16.Nxb5 +-;

15...bxc5? 16.bxc6 Nb8 17.Nb5 Nxc6 18.Nxa7 Nxa7 19.dxc5 Bxc5 20.Rfc1 +- -

16.f5!? exf5 17.bxc6 Nf6



18.Rfe1!? A highly complicated phase proceeds with really fine play by Black.

18.cxb6!? Rxc6 19.Na4 = ; Perhaps, White could play this interesting move

securing the exchange and possibly some winning chances as well. The practice will tell if White has some serious winning prospects in this variation.

18.Qa6!? bxc5TM 19.Nb5 Rc8 20.c7 Rxc7 21.Nxc7 Qxc7 22.Rab1 cxd4 (22...c4 23.Rb5 Bxa3 24.Qxa5[∞]) 23.Nxd4 Qf4[∞] with unclear position.

18...Ne4 19.Nb5 Rxc6 20.Ne5 Re6 21.c6 Nd6 22.a4 Nxb5 23.Qxb5 Black played really well from this point on.

23...Bd6 24.Rac1 Bc7 25.Nd7 Rfe8 26.Rxe6 fxe6 27.Qa6 Qg5 28.Rb1 Qf4 29.g3 Qxd4 30.Qb7 With a draw in Serner,Arpad - Shablinsky,Mikhail, corr 2019/20.

The continuation would demand great precision on White's part to secure the balance. For example: 30...Bd6 31.Re1 Qxa4 32.Nxb6 Qb4 33.Rf1 Bc5 34.Qd7 Kf8 35.Nxd5! [35.c7 Bxb6 36.Qxe8+ Kxe8 37.c8=Q+ Kf7³] 35...exd5 36.Qxf5+ Kg8 37.Qxd5+ Kh8 38.c7 Ba7 39.Qd7 Qf8 40.c8=Q Rxc8 41.Qxa7 =

TOURNAMENTS

1. Chang Renjie 7, 2-3. Bai Jinshi, Wang Shixi 6½, 4-6. Xu Xiangyu, Zhu Jiner, Xiang Zhen, 6, 7-14. Jiang Qinyu, Dai Changyu, Xue Haowen, Li Di, Xu Yi, Lin Yi, Liu Guancha, Chen Qi 5½, etc.

GIBRALTAR, V-VI 2021
The FIDE Women's Grand Prix Series

(cat. 20-24)

This is the list of four stages of the 2019-21 FIDE Women's Grand Prix – four prize-winning events were Skolkevo, September 2019, Moscow, December 2019 and Laskomno, March 2020. The players are ranked by the series, and playing in the final two tournaments.

Time Control: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1	ABDULMALIK	wg	2477	■	½	½	½	1	1	½	1	1	1	1	½	8½-1
2	M. MUZYCHUK	u	2314	½	■	1	½	½	½	½	0	½	1	1	1	7-2
3	GOK. MAMMADZADA	wg	2443	½	0	■	1	½	½	0	1	½	½	½	½	6½-3=4
4	LAGNO	u	2316	½	½	0	■	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	½	5½-3=4
5	IZAGINIDZE	g	2524	0	½	½	½	■	0	½	½	½	1	1	1	6-2=6
6	E. PÄHTZ	wg	2456	0	½	½	½	1	■	½	1	½	0	½	1	5-5=6
7	A. MUZYCHUK	u	2535	½	½	1	½	½	½	■	0	½	1	0	½	5½-7
8	KASH-LINSKAYA	wg	2464	0	1	0	0	½	0	1	■	1	0	½	½	5-8
9	A. STEFANOVA	g	2476	0	½	½	½	0	½	½	0	■	1	0	½	4½-6=10
10	GLINKA	g	2421	0	0	0	0	½	1	0	1	0	■	1	1	4½-6=10
11	SAD. AKASOVA	wg	2506	0	0	½	½	0	½	1	½	0	0	■	1	4-11
12	I. DULMAGA	wg	2410	½	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	1	0	0	■	2-12

In each WGP tournament, every player earns WGP points according to her position in the final standings. The players will receive Grand Prix points as follows:

Place	WGP points	Score	WGP points
1 st	160	9½	60
2 nd	120	8½	50
3 rd	100	7½	40
4 th	80	6½	30
5 th	60	5½	20
6 th	50	4½	10

FIDE WOMEN GRAND PRIX STANDINGS

		Skolkevo	Moscow	Laskomno	Gibraltar	Points
1	GORYACHEVA	120	135	145	—	398
2	H. KONTUR	160	135	—	—	295
3	LAGNO	90	90	—	100	280
4	ABDULMALIK	—	—	110	160	270
5	IZAGINIDZE	—	35	145	75	255
6	M. MUZYCHUK	—	60	60	130	250
7	A. MUZYCHUK	—	80	85	60	225
8	A. KOSTENIUK	45	135	75	—	195
9=10	D. FARKAS	60	60	60	—	180
9=10	KASH-LINSKAYA	45	—	85	50	180
11	E. PÄHTZ	75	20	—	75	170
12	JU. WENJUN	120	—	25	—	145
13=14	GLINKA	75	10	—	45	130
13=14	A. STEFANOVA	25	—	60	25	126
15	P. CAVALLINI	10	60	85	—	155
16	GOK. MAMMADZADA	—	—	—	100	100
17	M. SEDAG	25	—	15	—	40
18	ZHAO NUI	—	35	—	—	35
19	SAD. AKASOVA	—	—	—	20	20
20	I. DULMAGA	—	—	—	10	10

Due to travel restrictions on Chinese citizens due to the Coronavirus outbreak, Zhao Xue was unable to participate in the Laskomno leg of the Grand Prix. She was replaced by Zhaoxun Abdulmalik. For the Gibraltar WGP, Koner, J. Wenzlin, Zhao Xue and Sedag were replaced Zharasya Abdulmalik, Dilara Sad. Akasova, Irina Dulmaga and Gany Mammadzada. These replacement players are not eligible for the Candidates spots.

The winner of WGP Series is a player who scores the most number of cumulative points earned in all WGP tournaments she played. The two players who score the most number of cumulative points in WGP Series qualify to the FIDE Women Candidates Tournament. As Goryachikina is already qualified to the Candidates tournament, the third place will qualify instead of her.

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